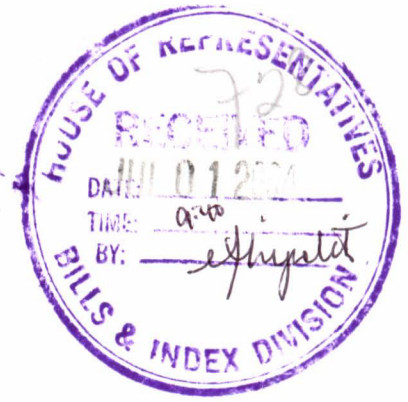


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 728

Introduced by **REP. JUDY J. SYJUCO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As enunciated in our Constitution, "The Philippines renounces war as an instrument of national policy, adopts the generally accepted principles of international law as part of the law of the land and adheres to the policy of peace, equality, justice, freedom, cooperation and amity with all nations.

It is likewise declared as the principle of the State that, "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy".

As a practice and tradition, New Year serves as an opportunity for new hopes and good things both for everyone's life and the country as a whole. It is a moment when the government starts the New Year with positive goals and targets for the country's economy and political stability. It is said that when good things start from the beginning of the year, the same will last the whole year through.

Genuine and lasting peace is an indispensable requisite of development and economic growth. Peace based on social justice and equity is genuine peace---a timeless aspiration of the Filipino people. To achieve genuine peace, a conscious, unified and concerted effort both by the government and the people must take place. Our desire for lasting peace and unity must be inculcated in the minds and hearts of every Filipino. This proposed measure seeks to instill consciousness by declaring the first working day of every year as the "National Day of Peace and Unity".

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

JUDY J. SYJUCO

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 728

Introduced by **REP. JUDY J. SYJUCO**

AN ACT
DECLARING THE FIRST WORKING DAY OF EVERY YEAR, BEGINNING ON THE
YEAR 2003, A NATIONAL DAY OF PEACE AND UNITY, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Every first working day of every year, beginning on the year 2003, is hereby declared a National Day of Peace and Unity and a special non-working holiday.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation. The publication shall not be later than seven (7) days after approval hereof.

Approved,