

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1718



Introduced by: HON. OSCAR G. MALAPITAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

“The better the home, the better the nation.” This is what the 1987 Constitution provides in expressly recognizing the Filipino family as the “foundation of the nation” whose solidarity must be strengthened as a “basic autonomous social institution.”

The attached bill seeks to strengthen the family by providing more time and opportunity for togetherness. In the same light, it will also serve as a effective domestic cost saving measure since those families who prefer to stay home will have a longer time of rest which in effect would enable them to save money, time and effort. This measure makes it possible by fashioning a long weekend scheme by moving the non-working holiday which may fall on either Tuesday or Wednesday to a Monday. However, if the non-working holiday falls on a Thursday, the same may be moved to Friday which will also serve the same purpose. Exceptions to this measure are the following national holidays, namely, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day.

Parents working and children attend school all week until Saturday – effectively having only one day, Sunday, as family day is a reality that leaves little time for family bonding. With the enactment of this measure, the family can plan ahead and make time for family activities. They can even schedule out-of-town trips thereby enhancing domestic tourism in the process. In the end, this would translate into improved family ties and values that make society a better place for business or pleasure. Indeed, an investment in the family is an investment in the future. In addition, this will also enable the family to save money, time and effort should they decide to just stay home and enjoy the long weekend.

The significance of the event being honored or commemorated is not diminished or lost because the celebration may still be had on the actual date. What is moved is simply the public non-working holiday aspect.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


OSCAR G. MALAPITAN

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AN ACT

To strengthen Family Bonding by Providing More Time and Opportunity for Togetherness

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

Section 1. Title – This Act shall be known as the “Family Bonding Act.”

Section 2. Opportunity for Family Togetherness and Domestic Cost Saving Measure – To provide opportunity for family bonding, and to enable the family to save money, time and effort should they decide to stay home and enjoy the long weekend, the non-working holiday aspect of legal or regular holidays and special days and other public holidays so declared by law, order or proclamation falling on either Tuesday or Wednesday, shall be observed on a Monday. However, when such holiday falls on a Tuesday, the observance of the holiday aspect shall be made on Friday. This regular holidays, namely. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day.

The same rule shall be observed in the case of local special days so declared by the President for a particular place.

Section 3. Pretermission of Holiday – Where the day or the last day for doing any act required or permitted by law falls on the aforesaid Monday nearest the public non-working holiday, such act may be done on the next succeeding business day.

The same rule shall apply for doing any act required or permitted by law falling on a Friday.

Section 4. Repealing Clause – All laws, executive orders, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuance or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectivity Clause – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,