

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

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

HOUSE BILL NO. 4523



Introduced by Honorable EDMUNDO O. REYES, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to institutionalize the celebration of National Children's Day in the country. Under our Constitution, "The state recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being." It is the responsibility of the government to look after the general welfare of the children and therefore it shall exercise its powers to ensure that all the laws, programs and services for children are duly implemented.

This constitutional provision underscores the importance of children in the society. It is necessary that every sector in the society, more importantly the government and family, participate in the assurance to uphold the needs and rights of every Filipino child. Particularly, there is a need to call public attention and secure nationwide awareness, as well as appreciation, on the role of children in the society. In this regard, the Filipino children should be made to feel that the adult sector care for their well-being and supports their interests. Above all, the Filipino children should feel that they are indispensable to the society, regardless of their age.

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


EDMUNDO O. REYES, JR.

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**AN ACT
DECLARING THE CELEBRATION OF
NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY IN THE COUNTRY**

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "National Children's Day Act."

SECTION 2. Declaration. – It is hereby declared that the second Sunday of
October every year will be known as the National Children's day.

SECTION 3. Coverage. – This Act shall apply to all Filipino children, who are
between 0 to below 18 years of age.

SECTION 4. Objectives. – The objectives of this Act are:

- a) To make the third Sunday of October every year National Children's Day.
- b) To commemorate the day that will emphasize to the nation the significance of the role of the child within the family and the society.
- c) To reflect on the promotion and protection of the rights of Filipino children.

- d) To strengthen the relationship between the children and the adult sector of the Philippine society.

SECTION 5. Implementing Agencies. – The program shall be initiated by the National Youth Commission (NYC) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and in cooperation with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (Ched).

SECTION 6. The role of NYC and DSWD. – The National Youth Commission and the Department of Social Welfare and Development together with the Council for the Welfare of Children, the focal agency of the government for children's concerns, shall initiate the programs and activities of this occasion.

SECTION 7. The role of DepEd and Ched. – The Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education shall facilitate and encourage the celebration of this event in schools nationwide, since the said date falls within the school year.

SECTION 8. Information Dissemination. – The Philippine Information Agency (PIA) in coordination with the NYC, DSWD, DepEd, and Ched shall ensure effective information dissemination campaign on the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 9. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.