

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H. B. No. 611

Introduced by HONORABLE JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines and China are neighboring countries that share a friendship dating back to ancient times. This friendly association has brought about a strong and increasing presence of the Filipino-Chinese community in the country.

Their presence in the Philippines has contributed to the increase in economic and trade relations between these two countries. Further, the various businesses of the Filipino-Chinese community in the Philippines account for employment generation to the great advantage of our labor force. Their economic contribution, thus, cannot be quantified in terms of monetary benefits alone.

Aside from economic favor, cultural enrichment has likewise been derived from long association and assimilation with the Chinese people. Cultural and social assimilation has resulted in the recognition of numerous Chinese cultural customs, foremost of which is in the Chinese New Year, which is celebrated by many Filipinos and Filipino-Chinese with the same festivity as the Chinese Nationals.

By setting aside the day when Chinese New Year falls to commemorate the occasion which both Chinese and most of Filipinos celebrate, we would be enhancing the mutually beneficial relations between us and furthering the amity forged between these two countries.

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


JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA
Representative
Lone District, Province of Aurora

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

)
)
)

H. B. No. 611

Introduced by Honorable JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

**AN ACT
DECLARING CHINESE NEW YEAR OF EACH YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING
HOLIDAY AS A SIGN OF GOODWIL AND AMITY BETWEEN
THE PHILIPPINES AND CHINA**

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

SECTION 1. In recognition of the immeasurable contribution of the Filipino Chinese community in our country and in order to further strengthen the Filipino- Chinese amity, the Chinese New Year of each year is hereby declared as a special working Holiday throughout the entire Philippines.

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) calendar days after its publication in one (1) national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,