

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1651

Submitted by the Committee on Revision of Laws on 19 DEC 2011

Re : House Bill No. 5655

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4073

Sponsors : Representatives Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas and Mylene J. Garcia-Albano

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Revision of Laws to which was referred House Bill No. 4073, introduced by Rep. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano:

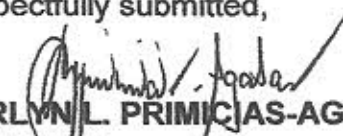
"AN ACT DECLARING THE WALINGWALING AS THE NATIONAL FLOWER OF THE PHILIPPINES"

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 5655 entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING THE WALING-WALING ORCHID AS NATIONAL FLOWER OF THE PHILIPPINES IN ADDITION TO SAMPAGUITA AS DECLARED IN PROCLAMATION NO. 652, DATED 01 FEBRUARY 1934 BY GOVERNOR-GENERAL FRANK MURPHY"

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 4073 with Reps. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano, Angelo B. Palmones and Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,


MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS
Chairperson

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5655
In Substitution of House Bill No. 4073

Introduced by Representatives **MYLENE J. GARCIA-ALBANO AND ANGELO B. PALMONES**

AN ACT

DECLARING THE WALING-WALING ORCHID AS NATIONAL FLOWER OF THE PHILIPPINES IN ADDITION TO SAMPAGUITA AS DECLARED IN PROCLAMATION NO. 652, DATED 01 FEBRUARY 1934 BY GOVERNOR-GENERAL FRANK MURPHY

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

1 SECTION 1. The Waling-Waling orchid is hereby declared as another national
2 flower, together with Sampaguita, which was declared national flower of the Philippines
3 in Proclamation No. 652, dated 01 February 1934 by Governor-General Frank Murphy.

4
5 SEC. 2. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate
6 rules and regulations that will protect, conserve and propagate the Waling-Waling
7 orchid together with Sampaguita.

8
9 SEC. 3. Executive Proclamation No. 652 and other laws, rules and regulations,
10 or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

11
12 SEC 4. This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least
13 two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

14
15 Approved,

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 4073

Introduced by Hon. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Walingwaling as the National Flower of the Philippines, to replace the Sampaguita.

The Sampaguita was designated as the Philippines' National Flower by virtue of Executive Proclamation No. 652 issued by Gov. Gen. Frank Murphy on February 1, 1934.

According to Dr. Eduardo Quisumbing, National Museum Director and Dr. Vicente Saplala, a professor of the UP Los Banos, the sampaguita is a native of India and Arabia while the Walingwaling "is not only indigenous but endemic to the Philippines".

The Walingwaling plant, which is the best orchid variety in the country, is scientifically known as *Vanda Sanderiana* and used to abound in the tropical forest of Mount Apo, Province of Davao, and Zamboanga del Sur. The orchid is touted as the queen of Philippine flowers and is worshipped as "diwata" by the native Bagobos.

Aside from having its origin in the Philippines, the Walingwaling flower is truly symbolic of the Filipino traits and characteristics.

The Walingwaling plant grow on tall diptherocarps but is never known to be a parasite. It lives on treetops reaching for the light of the sun.

This majestic plant perched atop a tall tree enjoying the elements of the earth symbolize the high aspirations of the Filipino. The Walingwaling is never choosy in its growing environs. It is known to thrive in the lowlands of Southern Tagalog, the cool climes of Los Banos, Laguna and even the cold wintry weather of America, subsisting on the lights of a fluorescent bulb. Such quality can be a symbol of resiliency of the Filipinos. Moreover, the plant could live without support. It does not shy away from symbiotic relationships with the diptherocarps. Such characteristics are symbolic of Filipino independence. As a proud Filipino race, we enjoy our independence but we also live harmoniously and peacefully with other nations.

The ornamental value of Walingwaling is of national and international popularity. It was in 1982 when Frederick Sander of London introduced the Walingwaling to the orchid enthusiasts and lovers in London. It was also propagated by orchid lobbyist and commercial orchid growers in other countries particularly Singapore, Thailand, Hongkong and Hawaii. Since then, the Walingwaling hybrids have been one of the world's multibillion dollar orchid and cutflower industry. This is symbolic of the adaptability of the Filipinos.

If Walingwaling shall be saved, protected, regulated and its industry developed, it could be the single biggest dollar earner for the country and would contribute to the economic growth of the Filipinos.

For these reasons, the Walingwaling should be the Philippines' National Flower, hence, this Bill, approval of which is earnestly recommended.



MYLENE J. GARCIA-ALBANO

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4073

Introduced by Hon. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano

AN ACT
DECLARING THE WALINGWALING AS THE NATIONAL
FLOWER OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. The Walingwaling orchid is hereby declared the National Flower of the Philippines.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate rules and regulations that will govern the acquisition, care and disposal of, and to protect, conserve and propagate the Walingwaling.

SEC. 3. Executive Proclamation No. 652 and laws, decrees, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS HELD ON 22 NOVEMBER 2011, TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M. AT CONFERENCE ROOM NO. 6 MITRA BUILDING, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Presiding Officer, Vice Chairperson Mercedes K. Alvarez, called the meeting to order at 9:47 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Upon motion, duly seconded the calling of the roll was dispensed with and the guests and members were acknowledged.

III. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion, duly seconded the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with and the same approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING SUBSTITUTE BILLS:

1. SUBSTITUTE BILL consolidating House Bill Nos. 3058, 3391, 3598 and 4467: PROVIDING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO SOLO PARENTS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATORS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE RA 8972 OF THE SOLO PARENTS' WELFARE ACT OF 2000 (introduced by Reps. Ma. Theresa B. Bonoan-David, Carol Jayne B. Lopez, Cesar V. Sarmiento, Diosdado Macapagal Arroyo, Emmi De Jesus, Teodoro Casino, Salvador H. Escudero III, Yevgeny Vincente B. Emano, Neri Colmenares, Rafael V. Mariano, Raymond Palatino and Antonio Tinio)

Upon motion, duly seconded the Substitute bill amending the Solo Parent's Welfare Act of 2000 was approved subject to style and was referred to the Committee on Appropriations for approval or comment of its appropriations provision.

2. SUBSTITUTE BILL on House Bill Nos. 4010 and 5175: IMPOSING STIFFER PENALTIES ON THE OFFENSE OF STEALING OR TAMPERING GOVERNMENT RISKS REDUCTION AND PREPAREDNESS EQUIPMENT, ACCESSORIES AND OTHER FACILITY ITEMS (introduced by Reps. Angelo B. Palmones, Erico B. Aumentado, Romero Federico "Miro" S. Quimbo, Mercado A. Homer, Tomas V. Apacible, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Victorino Dennis Socrates, Mercedes K. Alvarez, Giorgidi B. Aggabao, Emmi A. De Jesus and Daisy Avance-Fuentes)

Upon motion, duly seconded the Substitute Bill imposing stiffer penalties on the offense of stealing or tampering risks reduction and preparedness equipment, accessories and other facility items was approved subject to style. Rep. Quimbo commended the Technical Working group for the bill approved and stated that the same should not be referred to the Committee on Appropriations as there are no appropriations provision in the said measure.

Subsequently, Rep. Mylene Garcia-Albano manifested to be co-author of the said measure.

3. SUBSTITUTE BILL consolidating House Bill Nos. 251 and 2399: PROVIDING STRICTER PENALTIES ON THE CRIME OF DELIVERING PRISONERS FROM JAIL AND INFIDELITY IN THE CUSTODY OF PRISONERS, AMENDING ARTS. 156, 223 AND 224 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE (Introduced by Reps. Juan Edgardo M. Angara, Ma. Amelita A. Calimbas-Villarosa and Romeo M. Acop)

Similarly, upon motion, duly seconded the Substitute Bill on providing stricter penalties on the crime of delivering prisoners from jail and infidelity in the custody of prisoners was also approved subject to style. However, Rep. Romeo M. Acop expressed reservation to the phrase, "FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE, THE PUBLIC OFFICER CHARGED WITH THE CUSTODY OR CONVEYANCE OF THE CONVICT OR DETENTION PRISONER IS PRIMA FACIE PRESUMED TO HAVE CONSENTED OR CONNIVED TO THE EVASION." He noted that guilt cannot be presumed as this is unconstitutional. The Constitution provides that "in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall be presumed innocent until the contrary is proved." Rep. Acop stated that he will confer with Rep. Juan Edgardo M. Angara, principal author of HB No. 251, regarding said provision.

4. SUBSTITUTE BILL consolidating House Bill Nos. 258, 1705, 4212 and 4694: AMENDING RA 9208 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2003 (Reps. Mel Senen S. Sarmiento, Pryde Henry A. Teves, Susan A. Yap, Cinchona Cruz-Gonzales, Emmanuel D. Pacquiao, Walden F. Bello, Maria Isabelle Climaco, Maximo Rodriguez, Jr., Karlo Alexei B. Nograles, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Erico B. Aumentado, Rodante D. Marcoleta, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Cesar V. Sarmiento, Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica)

Further, upon motion, duly seconded the Substitute Bill amending RA 9208 otherwise known as the Anti-Trafficking Act of 2003 was also approved subject to style.

- V. CONTINUATION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4073: DECLARING WALING-WALING AS THE NATIONAL FLOWER OF THE PHILIPPINES (Rep. Mylene Garcia-Albano)

At this point, the Presiding Officer read the letter of the National Museum stating "that the selection of Sampaguita as a national flower was not based on considerations of endemism to the archipelago but rather its traditional and historical significance, specifically "its popularity, ornamental value, fragrance and the role it plays in the legends and traditions of the Filipino people." The National Museum believes that the cultural importance of the Sampaguita, particularly to the intangible cultural heritage of the Filipino people, remains as relevant, valid and widely held among the current generation as it has for many generations past. It respectfully recommends that the Sampaguita retain its status and that Waling-waling be designated as the national orchid of the country. Alternatively, it would be possible for the country to have more than one national flower, as is the practice elsewhere, such as Indonesia, which has three national flowers," may be declared as another national flower of the country.

At this juncture, upon motion, duly seconded HB No. 4073 was approved subject to style, declaring Waling Waling as national Flower of the Philippines in addition to the existing Sampaguita flower.

- VI. CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1684, STRONGLY URGING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (COMELEC) TO CODIFY ALL EXISTING STATUTES

GOVERNING ELECTIONS AND TO SUBMIT TO CONGRESS A DRAFT BILL FOR THIS PURPOSE (introduced by Rep. Lucy Torres-Gomez)

Commissioner Elias Yusoph manifested the support of Comelec on the proposal and informed the body that the Commission has already started drafting an omnibus election code that is updated and comprehensive in all aspects. They are targeting to submit it to Congress for sponsorship next year.

The Presiding Chair informed the body that the subject is already contained in the bill authored by Hon. Rufus Rodriguez re: Codification of all laws of the Philippines.

VII. CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAY BILLS:

Upon an omnibus motion, made by Hon. Rodolfo B. Albano, the following local bills declaring holidays were approved subject to style:

- 1) HB 34 Declaring August 25 as "City of Gapan or Gapan City Day", (introduced by Rep. Rodolfo W. Antonino)
- 2) HB 2421 Declaring March 9 as "Abra Foundation Anniversary and Culmination of the Abrenian Kawayan Festival" (introduced by Rep. Ma. Jocelyn Valera-Bernos)
- 3) HB 3670 Declaring July 4 as "Lanao Del Norte Foundation Day" (introduced by Rep. Imelda Q. Dimaporo)
- 4) HB 3757 Declaring June 24 as "Masbate Kasadyaan sa Dagat Festival" (introduced by Rep. Antonio T. Kho)
- 5) HB 4098 Declaring October 26 as "Foundation Day of Catanduanes" (introduced by Rep. Cesar V. Sarmiento and Ma. Theresa B. Bonoan-David)
- 6) HB 4114 Declaring July 1 as "San Carlos City Charter Day" (introduced by Rep. Julio IV A. Ledesma)
- 7) HB 4173 Declaring February 10 as "Passi City Annual Fiesta Day" (introduced by Rep. Ferjenel G. Biron)
- 8) HB 4401 Declaring December 20 as "Capiz Liberation Day" (introduced by Rep. Anthony G. Del Rosario)
- 9) HB 4525 Declaring October 28 as "Cry of Lumid" (introduced by Rep. Ferjenel G. Biron)
- 10) HB 4587 Declaring February 26 as "Dia dela Ciudad de Zamboanga" (introduced by Rep. Maria Isabelle "Beng" G. Climaco)

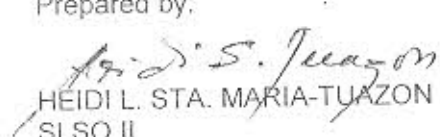
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other matter to be discussed the meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Noted by:


ATTY. PETRA S. MARCOS
Service Director, CTSS VI

Prepared by:


HEIDI L. STA. MARIA-TUAZON
SLSO II

FACT SHEET

5655

House Bill No. _____

In substitution of House Bill No. 4073
(As Approved on November 22, 2011)

**AN ACT DECLARING WALING-WALING ORCHID AS NATIONAL
FLOWER IN ADDITION TO SAMPAGUITA.**

Introduced by : ***Reps. Maylene J. Garcia-Albano and Angelo B. Palmones***

Committee Referral : ***Revision of Laws***

Committee Chairperson: ***Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas***

OBJECTIVE/S:

- To underscore the popularity of Waling-Waling Orchid worldwide as an endemic Philippine flower that epitomizes the trait and character of Filipinos as a people and likewise for them to appreciate and behold the sense of pride and identity Waling-Waling offers.

KEY PROVISION:

- Declares Waling-Waling orchid as national flower of the Philippines in addition to Sampaguita.