



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

Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1745



Introduced by Honorable Damian Gaviola Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the date of March 31 as official non-working national holiday to commemorate the first religious rites of the Christian faith given the fact that the Philippines is a country whose population is mostly Catholic/Christians.

The passage of this bill will be a confirmation that the State should recognize the significance of March 31 as an important date for its religious belief considering that the first mass of the aforementioned faith was held on March 31, 1521 at Limasawa Island in Southern Leyte.

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


DAMIAN GAVIOLA MERCADO



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AN ACT
DECLARING MARCH 31 AS A NATIONAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN
COMMEMORATION OF THE FIRST MASS IN THE PHILIPPINES IN
LIMASAWA ISLAND

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* Given the Fact that the Philippines is a country whose population is mostly Catholic/Christians, the State should recognize the significance of March 31 as an important date for its religious belief considering that the first religious rites of the aforementioned faith was held on March 31, 1521.

SECTION 2. It is hereby being declared that the date March 31 is a non-working national holiday which shall be known as the First Mass day.

SECTION 3. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent within this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved.