

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2487



Introduced by **HONORABLE ROMERO "MIRO" S. QUIMBO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare July 27 of every year as a special national non-working holiday in the Philippines.

Currently, our country recognizes and celebrates eleven (11) national regular holidays¹. Among these, Christmas Day (December 25), Maundy Thursday (Thursday before Easter), Good Friday (Friday before Easter) and *Eid ul-Fitr* (end of Ramadan) were declared as such not only because of their religious significance but in recognition of the contributions of these faiths and their members to our national identity, culture, values and development.

Notably, despite the estimated ten million members of the Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) in the Philippines and their immeasurable contributions to the nation and the enactment of Republic Act No. 9645, July 27, the founding anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo remains to be recognized merely as special national working holiday. As such, the law is remiss in providing the Iglesia ni Cristo and its members the appropriate acknowledgment and recognition they deserve.

To recognize the significance of the contribution of the Iglesia ni Cristo to the country, I earlier filed House Resolution No. 92 ("A Resolution Urging His Excellency President Benigno Simeon "Noy" C. Aquino III to Declare July 27, 2010 as a Special Non-Working Holiday in Recognition of the 96th Founding Anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo in the Philippines) last 21 July 2010. This resolution was referred to the Committee on Revision of Laws, where it has been pending since.

The need to give full recognition to the Iglesia ni Cristo and its members for their contribution to our national identity, culture, values and development and the realization that

¹ Republic Act No. 9492 or "An Act Rationalizing the Celebration of National Holidays Amending for the purpose Section 26, Chapter 7, Book I of Executive Order No. 292, as amended, otherwise known as 'The Administrative Code of 1987'"

a resolution would be insufficient to remedy the flaw in the existing law are the main reasons for the furtherance of this legislation.

In view thereof, the expedient approval of this bill is strongly recommended.

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized loop at the top and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

ROMERO "MIRO" S. QUIMBO
Representative
Second District, Marikina City

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HOUSE BILL NO. **2487**

Introduced by **HONORABLE ROMERO “MIRO” S. QUIMBO**

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9645, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“COMMEMORATION OF THE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF IGLESIA NI CRISTO
ACT”, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9645, otherwise known as the
“Commemoration of the Founding Anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo Act” is hereby
amended to read as follows:

“SEC 3. *National Holiday.* – July 27 of every year is hereby declared as a
special national (~~working~~) **NON-WORKING** holiday in commemoration of the
founding anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo in the Philippines.”

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, rules, regulations,
ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or
modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its
publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,