



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3020

Introduced by:

REP. FRANCISCO T. MATUGAS, 1ST District, Surigao del Norte (*Siargao Island*)
REP. GUILLERMO A. ROMARATE, JR., 2ND District, Surigao del Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It was on May 15, 1901 when Surigao was first established as a province in Mindanao and was named Surigao Province by virtue of Act 127 entitled "An Act Extending the Provisions of the Provincial Government Act to the Province of Surigao". Section 5 of the said Act explicitly states that x x x "the Capital of the Province shall be at the town of Surigao" x x x which refers to the now City of Surigao, the capital of the now Province of Surigao del Norte.

Though Surigao Province was then divided into the two provinces of Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur on June 19, 1960 by virtue of Republic Act 2766, it is worth noting and remembering that there has already been a Province of Surigao before 1960 whose capital was situated in the Province of Surigao del Norte.

Therefore, in celebrating the birth of the Province of Surigao, it is not historically accurate to begin counting on the day the Province was divided into the two provinces of today. The Surigaonons should have a sense of heritage and culture in knowing that there has been a Province of Surigao 112 years ago and that they are a people with proud history and glorious past.

In order to preserve, value and celebrate the historical milestone of May 15, 1901, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

FRANCISCO T. MATUGAS

GUILLERMO A. ROMARATE, JR.



Republic of the Philippines

House of Representatives

Quezon City, Metro Manila

**Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 3020

**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES FRANCISCO T. MATUGAS AND
GUILLERMO A. ROMARATE, JR.**

**AN ACT DECLARING MAY 15 OF EVERY YEAR AS "ADLAW NAN PROBINSYA
NAN SURIGAO" AND SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE ENTIRE
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE**

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

1 SECTION 1. The province of Surigao was created by virtue of Act No. 127
2 by the United States Philippine Commission on May 15, 1901, entitled "An Act
3 Extending the Provisions of the Provincial Government Act to the Province of
4 Surigao".

5
6 SECTION 2. May Fifteen (15) of every year is hereby declared as "Adlaw
7 nan Probinsya nan Surigao" and a special non-working holiday in the entire
8 Province of Surigao del Norte .

9
10 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication
11 in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two newspapers of national circulation.

12
13 Approved,