

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3386



Introduced by Representative **EMIL L. ONG**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to propose an Act Declaring the Day on which Chinese New Year Falls Each Year as a Special Non-Working Holiday as a Sign of Goodwill and Amity between the Philippines and China.

The clamor from the Chinese-Filipino community to enact a law declaring the Chinese Lunar New year a non working holiday has gained traction. Holidays, coupled with government mandated leaves, is presumed to improve morale, decrease employee turnover due to packaged paid entitlements, reduction in absenteeism, and the promotion of work-life balance.

All over the world, various governments are also realizing the value of national non working holidays, chiefly to improve local consumption in an effort to curb declining economies. Non-working holidays boast of economic and sociological benefits. It quickly translates to increases in domestic spending as well as providing Filipinos to promote a healthy lifestyle. These activities create ripple effects on the various industries in the country. Increases in domestic travel and purchase of local goods and services further amplify tourism revenues and advances overall economic growth.

The passage of the Chinese Lunar new year as a non-working holiday will further the goodwill and amity between China and the Philippines. Tourism activities, regardless whether domestic or foreign, are known as a vital resource of income that fuels economic activities. And these movements have a trickle-down effect to the various sectors and industries.

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


EMIL L. ONG
Representative, 2nd district
Northern Samar

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3386**

Introduced by Representative **EMIL L. ONG**

AN ACT
DECLARING THE DAY ON WHICH CHINESE NEW YEAR FALLS EACH EYAR AS A SPECIAL NON-
WORKING HOLIDAY AS A SIGN OF GOODWILL AND AMITY BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND
CHINA.

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

SECTION 1. Every Chinese Lunar New Year is hereby declared as a special non-working holiday throughout the entire Philippines.

SECTION 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuance inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.