

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3573



Introduced by Representative MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Chinese influence in our culture, customs and tradition plays a big part of our everyday living. Most of us have Chinese ancestry along the way and their significant presence in our society cannot be denied. History reveal that the arrival of our Chinese ancestors were way ahead of our Spanish forefathers. As they settled in the Philippines, they raised their families, put their children in Philippine schools, established their businesses in accordance to Philippine laws and assimilated Filipino culture as well. They also celebrate and join the merriment of the Filipino feasts and celebrations.

Therefore, considering the long and established relations between the Filipinos and Chinese and in order to preserve the valued tradition of celebrating Chinese New Year, it is proposed that the Chinese New Year be declared as a NON WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY for observance among the Chinese, Filipino-Chinese and Filipinos as well, in recognition of their valuable contribution to the Philippines as a nation.

(Primicias) Agabas

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE CHINESE NEW YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING
PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY.- It is hereby declared a policy of the government to recognize the great contributions of our Chinese forefathers to the Philippine society and their rich cultural traditions which we have adopted.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL NON-WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY.- The Chinese New Year is hereby declared a special non-working public holiday in the whole country every year.

SECTION 3. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The Department of Labor and Employment in consultation with the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Inc., shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVITY. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication in two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.