

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

Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 4768

Introduced by **REP. JORGE "BOLET" B. BANAL**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Jesse Robredo was first elected Mayor of Naga City in 1988 at the age of 29. During his first three-term tenure as Mayor, the United Nations recognized the reforms he initiated in Naga City and cited the city as one of the Top 40 Best Practices in 1996. Likewise, Asiaweek Magazine in 1999 dubbed Naga City as one of the Most Improved Cities in Asia.

During his second three-term stint as Mayor of Naga City from 2001-2010, he further spearheaded reforms in the delivery of services to the residents of the city and greatly improved governance by introducing measures that enhanced people's participation in the affairs of the local government.

Through Jesse Robredo's leadership, Naga City received various awards and honors recognizing the best practices implemented in the city, such as, among others:

- CyberCity Award for its *i*-Governance initiatives, given by the United Nations Development Program in 2002;
- Women-Friendly City Award given by the UN-Human Settlements Programme and the UN Development Fund for Women in 2004
- Housing Rights Protector Award given by the Center for Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE) based in Geneva, Switzerland, in 2007;
- Finalist for World Habitat in 2001 and 2001, conferred by the Building and Social Foundation and UN Human Settlements Programme;
- Recognition as Cost Effective (City Category) in the search for Asian Cities and Regions of the Future in 2005 by the Foreign Direct Investment Magazine, published in the United Kingdom; and
- Recognition as the Model City for Government Procurement in 2003 by the World Bank and Procurement Watch.

Jesse Robredo himself received numerous awards and citations for his successes as Mayor of Naga City, namely:

- Dangal ng Bayan Award given by the Civil Service Commission (1990);
- Ten Outstanding Young Persons of the World (1996);
- Dubai International Award for Improving the Living Environment given by the UN Habitat (1998);
- Konrad Adenauer Medal of Excellence as Most Outstanding City Mayor of the Philippines (1998);
- Ramon Magsaysay Award (2000);
- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Public Service Award for Application of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in Local Government (2004); and
- UN Department of Public Administration and Finance Public Service Award for Local e-Governance (2004)

As Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, Jesse Robredo sought to replicate the successful good governance programs and initiatives he implemented in Naga City and shared it with all the local government units throughout the country, particularly his programs on full public disclosure to the public of budget and other financial transactions.

Indeed, the work done by Jesse Robredo should be emulated not just by government officials but even by ordinary Filipinos. It is therefore imperative to commemorate and honor the exemplary life of Jesse Robredo, a brilliant public servant and champion of good governance in the country.

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



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AN ACT
DECLARING AUGUST 18 OF EVERY YEAR AS "JESSE ROBREDO
DAY," A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as "Jesse Robredo Day."

SEC. 2. *Special Working Holiday.* - August 18 of every year is hereby declared as "Jesse Robredo Day," which shall be a special working holiday, to be celebrated in all elementary and secondary schools in the country. In the event that the holiday falls on a weekend, the holiday shall be observed on the Friday of that week.

SEC. 3. *Implementing Agency.* - The Department of Education, shall plan and implement activities for "Jesse Robredo Day," and ensure that Jesse Robredo's legacy of good governance and leadership is given emphasis to encourage students to continue the same for the good of the Philippines and the Filipino people.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,