

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

16th Congress
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **5334**



Introduced by Honorable Sergio A.F. Apostol

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Holidays in the Philippines are greatly enjoyed by many Filipino people as they get to spend more time with their families and take a break from their respective jobs. Although it is only right to be able to rest in the middle of a chaotic schedule, longer holidays usually result to a ton of pending workload hindering the productivity of various offices in our country. More than that, Labor Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz mentioned in an interview that small businesses usually suffer during the holidays as most of them are incapable of bearing the costs of a higher-wage bill during holidays, while daily paid workers don't earn on these days, consequently affecting the progress and competitiveness of our economy.

In a paper written by Damaris L. Yarcia entitled "*Is Holiday Economics Good for the Tourism Sector?*" it is stated that extended holiday weekends are indeed good for local tourism but is damaging to businesses, especially holidays that were declared on short notice as these holidays cause disruptions in their schedules and productivity.

To avoid damage to our economy, this bill proposes that Holidays, particularly Nonworking Holidays, should be properly regulated not allowing Holidays to last more than two (2) days. Furthermore, this bill shall also require all public and private banks to continue operating even on weekends and holidays to cater to businesses and individuals who are in need of their services.

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


HON. SERGIO A.F. APOSTOL
Representative
Second District, Leyte

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**AN ACT REGULATING THE PROCLAMATION OF ALL HOLIDAYS
IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND REQUIRING ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BANKS TO
OPERATE EVEN ON WEEKENDS AND OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. All Holidays in the Philippines should be properly regulated not allowing Holidays, specifically Nonworking Holidays, to last more than two (2) days.

SECTION 2. The Executive Branch (Office of the President) should regulate the dates and number of days of all the Holidays.

SECTION 3. All Banks, public and private, should be open and continue to cater to their clients even on weekends and holidays as they play an important role in the productivity and mobility of many people and businesses.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,