

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. **5875**



INTRODUCED BY Rep. GREG G. GASATAYA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On the 18th day of June 1938, President Manuel L. Quezon signed into effect Commonwealth Act No. 326 otherwise known as "The Charter of the City of Bacolod", therefore creating the City of Bacolod. The said Act comprised of different sections pertaining to the creation of the City of Bacolod and its transition from being a Municipality to officially becoming a City.

Article VIII, Section 54 of Commonwealth Act No. 326 explicitly states that it shall take effect upon its approval. However, for the mere purpose of having the Charter Day coincide with the festivities of Masskara Festival, Republic Act No. 7724, an act declaring October 19 as a special nonworking public holiday in the City of Bacolod and the Charter Day of the City of Bacolod, was enacted on May 19, 1994 bearing with it the misconception that the City of Bacolod was created on the day of its formal inauguration and first assembly of the City Council on October 19, 1938. This policy of the state has caused several problems such as the Charter Day being overshadowed by the festivities of the now world-famous Masskara Festival and the struggle in scheduling of the highlights and activities of the said festival resulting in indirect limitations to its potential for tourist attraction.

Thus, this Bill seeks to commemorate the Charter of the City of Bacolod on its true day of creation, address the problems presented by R.A. 7244, and honor those who took the necessary steps to lead Bacolod into its Cityhood status on June 18, 1938. It is high time to have a separate celebration of the Bacolod City Charter Day on the 18th of June of every year in lieu of its commemoration coinciding with the Masskara Festival every 19th of October.

As such, approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


REP. GREG G. GASATAYA
Lone District of Bacolod City

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**AN ACT
DECLARING THE 18TH DAY OF THE MONTH OF JUNE OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL
NONWORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD TO BE KNOWN AS
"BACOLOD CITY CHARTER DAY"**

WHEREAS, on the 18th day of June 1938, President Manuel L. Quezon signed into effect Commonwealth Act No. 326;

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 54 of Commonwealth Act No. 326 states that it shall take effect upon its approval;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7724, an act declaring October 19 as a special nonworking public holiday in the City of Bacolod and the Charter Day of the City of Bacolod, was enacted on the 19th day of May 1994;

WHEREAS, the celebration of the Charter Day of the City of Bacolod on the 19th of October every year has caused it to be overshadowed by the festivities of the Masskara Festival and has likewise caused inconvenience in the scheduling of the highlights of the said festival;

WHEREAS, there has been widespread misconception that the City of Bacolod was founded on the 19th day of October in lieu of the 18th day of June;

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Bacolod City Charter Day Act."

SECTION 2. June 18 is the Charter Day Anniversary of the City of Bacolod and the date when Commonwealth Act No. 326 entitled "An Act Creating the City of Bacolod" otherwise known as "The Charter of the City of Bacolod" was signed and approved into effect by then President Manuel L. Quezon.

SECTION 3. June 18 of every year is hereby declared a special nonworking public holiday in the City of Bacolod.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 7724 and any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GGG', with a large loop at the end.

REP. GREG G. GASATAYA
Lone District of Bacolod City