



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6285



Introduced by Representative Rodolfo C. Fariñas

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare January 18 of every year as "*Araw ng mga Kasambahay*", a nonworking holiday for all the kasambahay. Under Section 39 of Republic Act No. 10361, otherwise known as the "*Domestic Workers Act*" or "*Batas Kasambahay*," the date upon which the President shall approve the "*Domestic Workers Act*" shall be designated as the "*Araw ng mga Kasambahay*." The Domestic Workers Act was signed into law on January 18, 2013.

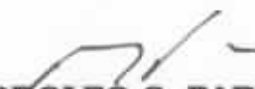
Domestic worker or "*Kasambahay*" as defined under Section 4, paragraph (d) of Republic Act No. 10361 refers to any person engaged in domestic work within an employment relationship such as, but not limited to, the following: general househelp, nursemaid or "yaya", cook, gardener, or laundry person, but shall exclude any person who performs domestic work only occasionally or sporadically and not on an occupational basis.

Before the passage of Republic Act No. 10361, there were 2.9 million domestic household workers in the Philippines who grappled with the harsh conditions attendant to their everyday work and who had nothing to safeguard their rights and welfare. This labor and social landmark legislation embodies the recognition of domestic workers as heroes in our households whose rights and welfare should be strengthened, protected and promoted.

The important role that domestic workers play in the growth of the Filipino society cannot be disputed. Domestic workers dedicate their efforts to promote the well-being of their employers. They ensure that the homes they manage are in good and orderly condition. They cook, wash and iron clothes, clean the house, take care of the kids and their pets, among other household duties. With the help of domestic workers, employers have the time and luxury to work and pursue their careers and still manage to have a happy and healthy family.

Setting a special day for the *kasambahay* and declaring it as a nonworking holiday for all the *kasambahay* in the whole country is a way of giving due recognition and great appreciation for their invaluable service they render to every home and family. January 18 shall be designated as "*Araw ng mga Kasambahay*", and our *Kasambahay* are given a work free day in order for them to attend to the activities that may be organized by the Department of Labor and Employment or to attend to their much needed personal errands.

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



RODOLFO C. FARIÑAS



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AN ACT
DECLARING JANUARY 18 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING
HOLIDAY FOR ALL KASAMBAHAY IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO BE
KNOWN AS "ARAW NG KASAMBAHAY"

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

1 SECTION 1. January 18 of every year is hereby declared a special
2 nonworking holiday for all *kasambahay* in the entire country to be known
3 as "*Araw ng Kasambahay*". In the event that the special day falls on a
4 weekend, the special nonworking holiday shall be observed on the Friday of
5 that week.

6 SEC. 2. For purposes of this Act, the term "*kasambahay*" is defined
7 under Section 4 (d) of Republic Act No. 10361, otherwise known as the
8 "*Domestic Workers Act*" or "*Batas Kasambahay*,"

9 SEC. 3. The Secretary of Labor and Employment shall, in coordination
10 with the Secretary of Education and the Director-General of the Philippine
11 Information Agency, plan and implement activities for the continuing
12 dissemination and information campaign to honor the *kasambahay*.

13 SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
14 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

15 Approved,