

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
House Bill no. **7136**



Introduced by **Representative Wes Gatchalian**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This law is proposed to declare the 30th of November every year as a special working holiday in recognition of the Jesus Reigns, National Day of Worship.

Among the Christian community the November 30 has a particular significance for it is on this date in 1947 when Israelites, after centuries of exile and torment, finding its most hideous form in Nazi Germany, was finally able to regain its sovereignty and possession of the *promise land* (Israel). Incidentally it was the ratification by the Philippines of the UN Partition Plan of Palestine in 1947 which became decisive in carrying out this international development. It is in solidarity with the people who the Christians consider as the *chosen* why this day is considered special and blessed.

Spearheading these festivities are the Christian community in the country estimated to be around 5.1% of the national population or around 5.1 million according to the Philippine Statistics Authority. Among the participants of this event is the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches accounting for 2.1% of the National Population, which includes seventy-two (72) Christian Churches and one-hundred thirty two (132) para-Churches nationwide. This event is however not exclusive to only a single denomination as by design the National Day of Worship was envisioned to be a united and ecumenical activity. In fact it has been seen that through the years more and more even from the Roman Catholic Church have equally and faithfully participated. It is estimated that around eighty-two (82) provinces all over the country participates in the festivities on this day. There is also a wide spread participation from the sixteen (16) cities within Metro Manila. In 2017, an estimated forty-thousand (40,000) persons gathered in the Quezon City Memorial Circle, and a total of one-million persons (1,000,000) nationwide, to celebrate the National Day of Worship.

The Christian Community in the Philippines has been instrumental in the socio-economic development of our country. In their teachings, they have ingrained in us valuable non-negotiable moral truths that make us all better individuals, and by their example of charity they have shown us what it truly means to give unconditionally. This measure is therefore proposed to grant them space and the recognition to truly express their faith.

HON. WES GATCHALIAN
Representative
First District, Valenzuela City

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**AN ACT DECLARING EVERY 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER
EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY
IN RECOGNITION OF JESUS REIGNS NATIONAL WORSHIP DAY**

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 and cited as the “Jesus Reigns, National Day of Worship Act”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the declared policy of the State to recognize the activities of Jesus Reigns! on its National Day of Worship.

SEC. 3. *National Holiday.* – November 30 of every year is hereby declared as a special national working holiday in recognition of the Jesus Reigns, National Day of Worship.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – 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 is hereby repealed, modified or amended, accordingly.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,