

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
2nd Regular Session

House Bill No. **7145**



Introduced by Kabataan Partylist Representative Sarah Jane I. Elago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The role of the youth can never be underestimated or belittled. They possess time, strength, and vigor to take on the role as vanguards of genuine national change and development. Throughout the years, we have witnessed how hundreds and thousands of students and youth have risen up to such responsibility, and even exceeded their seniors' expectations.

It is in this spirit that this Representation would like to honor the youth in an annual celebration of the National Youth Day, every August 12 -- the same day that the International Youth Day is celebrated. 19 years ago, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth that August 12 be declared as the International Youth Day.

In a time when the youth are faced with challenges, such as skyrocketing prices of basic goods and commodities, increasing tuition and other school fees, and a national political crisis where human rights are easily disregarded and violence is seen as an instrument to achieve peace, their resilience and ability to overcome and to be involved in these social issues are admirable.

Truly, we are honored to have a 'woke' generation -- a generation that does not let age dictate its role in society, a generation that chooses to fight back and to assert their beliefs, a generation that welcomes principled debate.

Let the National Youth Day be a celebration of the role of the youth. Let the National Youth Day be a celebration of the achievements of the youth, and a reminder of what more they can achieve. The annual celebration aims for a decentralized celebration of the internationally-recognized event in schools and to allow the youth to create their own programs to highlight the diversity of skills and to share their experiences, to enable further growth and individual and collective development.

Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist

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**AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE OBSERVANCE OF AUGUST 12 OF EVERY YEAR AS
THE NATIONAL YOUTH DAY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This act shall be known as the "National Youth Day Act".

SECTION 2. Pursuant to Section 13, Article II of the 1987 Constitution, the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building, and should undertake measures to inculcate in them patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

Section 2, Republic Act No. 8044, otherwise known as "An act creating the National Youth Commission, establishing a National Comprehensive and Coordinated Program on Youth Development, Appropriating Funds Therefore, and for Other Purposes" also recognizes the responsibility of the State to enable the youth to fulfill their vital role in nation-building, thereby establishing a National Comprehensive and Coordinated Program on Youth Development.

SECTION 3. In recognition of the observance of International Youth Day, the twelfth day of August of every year is hereby declared as National Youth Day.

SECTION 4. An annual program of activities for the observance of National Youth Day shall be prepared and implemented with the National Youth Commission (NYC) serving as the lead agency. The Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, and socio-civic organization shall support the NYC in all efforts to facilitate and promote related activities to all public and private schools and local government units.

All schools, colleges, and universities are hereby encouraged to launch activities in celebration of the National Youth Day, and their respective administrations shall extend their full support for exercises and activities to be conducted by the students.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.

HON. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Representative, Kabataan Partylist