



Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8261

Introduced by Representative Alberto T. Ungab

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare March 1 of every year as special nonworking public holiday to commemorate the "*Araw ng Davao*" or the foundation day of Davao City, and to repeal for the purpose Republic Act No. 7685, entitled "*An Act Declaring March 16 of Every Year A Special Nonworking Public Holiday in the City of Davao, to be known as 'Araw ng Dabaw.'*"

On October 16, 1936, Davao City was created under Commonwealth Act No. 51, otherwise known as the "*Charter of the City of Davao,*" and was formally constituted on March 1, 1937.

On February 25, 1972, the City Council of Davao adopted Resolution No. 132, Series of 1972, declaring March 16 of every year as the "*Araw ng Dabaw.*" But on January 26, 1973, the City Council of Davao City adopted Resolution No. 25, Series of 1973, which amended and changed the date of the celebration of the foundation day or the "*Araw ng Dabaw*" from March 16 to March 1 of every year.

In 1993, Republic Act No. 7685 was approved, declaring March 16 of every year as a special nonworking public holiday in the City of Davao to be known as the "*Araw ng Dabaw.*" Republic Act No. 7685 failed to consider, however, Resolution No. 25 which officially set and recognized March 1 as "*Araw ng Dabaw.*"

On March 6, 2018, the Sangguniang Panglungsod of Davao City adopted Resolution No. 1946-18, Series of 2018, informing the Congress of the Philippines that the "*Araw ng Davao*" or the foundation day of Davao City is

on March 1, 1937 and not on March 16, 1936, and that there are markers or historic landmarks, particularly in the City Hall, that indicate that Davao City was inaugurated on March 1, 1937 and not March 16, 1936.

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


ALBERTO T. UNGAB

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AN ACT

**DECLARING MARCH 1 OF EVERY YEAR AS SPECIAL
NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF DAVAO TO BE KNOWN
AS THE “ARAW NG DAVAO”, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7685, ENTITLED “AN ACT DECLARING MARCH
16 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN
THE CITY OF DAVAO, TO BE KNOWN AS “ARAW NG DABAW”**

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

SECTION 1. March 1 of every year, the date Davao City was duly
constituted by virtue of Commonwealth Act No. 51, is hereby declared as
special nonworking public holiday, to be known as the “*Araw ng Davao*.”

SEC. 2. Republic Act No. 7685, entitled “*An Act Declaring March 16 of
Every Year A Special Nonworking Public Holiday in the City of Davao, to be
known as “Araw ng Dabaw”*” is hereby repealed. All laws, executive orders,
proclamations, decrees, rules and regulations, issuances, or parts thereof
inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

1 SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
2 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

3 Approved,