

**Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City**

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 8614



**Introduced by BEN P. EVARDONE
Representative, Lone District, Eastern Samar**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

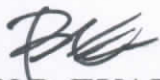
Year after year, the Province of Eastern Samar celebrates its Founding Anniversary every 9th day of November.¹

It has been observed that not every person, organization, office or agency, private and public, national and local, living, situated or operating in the Province is able to actively participate in activities lined up for the commemoration of the Province's establishment. One common reason advanced and considered attributable to such lack of active participation is the fact that this day, November 9, is declared a special non-working day in the Province of Eastern Samar only by virtue of a Presidential Proclamation. In other words, whether the Anniversary would be a holiday for that particular year becomes wholly a Presidential prerogative, which, traditionally, has been exercised only when the Anniversary date is near.²

Consequently, public and private individuals, organizations, agencies and offices could not include in their respective annual calendar of activities their participation in the Founding Anniversary because of the lack of certainty of the next year's Anniversary being declared a holiday.

This bill seeks to declare every 9th day of November of every year as a special non-working holiday, so that more and more individuals as well as national, multinational, or local agencies, offices, or organizations, in the public and private sector, would be able to plan out their yearly involvement and participation in the various activities for the commemoration of the Founding Anniversary of the Province of Eastern Samar, and thereby make such Date more memorable, meaningful and productive.

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


BEN P. EVARDONE

¹ Republic Act No. 4221, approved in June 1965, mandated the division of Samar into 3 Provinces. The plebiscite was made to coincide with the General Elections of November 1965; hence, the November 9 date of plebiscite became the Foundation Day of the Province of Eastern Samar.

² The latest Proclamation No. 610 (2018) was issued and released only on October 31, 2018.

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AN ACT
DECLARING NOVEMBER 9 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF EASTERN SAMAR, TO BE KNOWN AS THE
“EASTERN SAMAR FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY”

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

1
2 **SECTION 1.** November 9 of every year is hereby declared a special nonworking
3 holiday in the Province of Eastern Samar, in commemoration of its Founding Anniversary.

4
5 **SECTION 2.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
6 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

7 **Approved,**