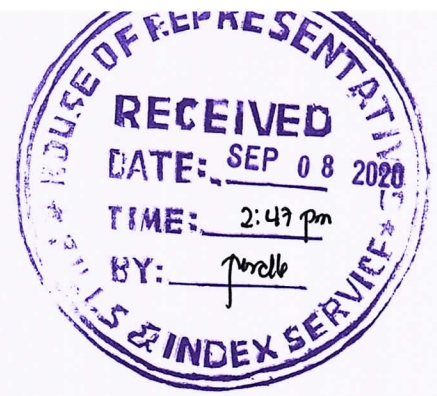


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7603



Introduced by HONORABLE WES GATCHALIAN

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MONTH OF JUNE OF EVERY YEAR AS THE “NATIONAL
FRONTLINERS MONTH” IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

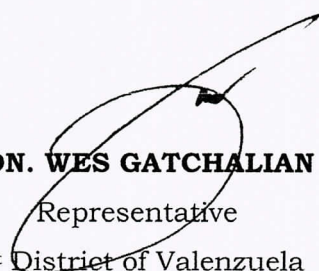
In the time of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the world witnessed a new set of heroes. These heroes have been with us for the longest time. However, when the time came for everyone to stay indoors in order to curb the spread of COVID-19, they remained in their battle stations.

Healthcare workers, food delivery drivers, supermarket workers, restaurant cooks, security guards, agriculture and fisheries workers, garbage collectors, bank employees, business process outsourcing workers, logistics workers, police and military personnel, social workers, media people, and government workers, *inter alia*, have been working selflessly, despite the risk of contracting COVID-19 in order to assure that essential services are given to the populace.

Since June is the month when we celebrate Philippine independence which was brought about by the heroism of Filipino revolutionaries who fought against foreign rule, it is only fitting that this measure seeks to institutionalize the annual celebration of the principles, values and contributions of our frontliners who carry the tradition of the same Filipino heroism through their own courage, hard work and sacrifices. This measure seeks to give recognition to our frontliners as the new breed of Filipino heroes by declaring the month of June of every year as the National Frontliners Month.

More than a month in the calendar for frontliners, this bill also mandates the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), as the lead agencies, in coordination with the Civil Service Commission (CSC), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and other government agencies to conduct activities and programs that promote the principles and values espoused by our frontliners as well as honor and/or reward our frontliners for their essential role in the delivery of public services, recovery and nation building during national emergencies.

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



HON. WES GATCHALIAN
Representative
1st District of Valenzuela

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7603

Introduced by HONORABLE WES GATCHALIAN

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MONTH OF JUNE OF EVERY YEAR AS THE “NATIONAL
FRONTLINERS MONTH” IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY”

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “The National
2 Frontliners Month Act.”

3
4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – In recognition of Filipino heroism through the
5 courage, hard work and sacrifices of our frontliners, the month of June of every year
6 is hereby declared as the “National Frontliners Month.”

7
8 **SEC. 3. Objectives of the Policy.** – The National Frontliners Month aims to:

- 9 a. Recognize the significant contributions of frontliners, such as the
10 healthcare workers, police and military personnel, media, government
11 workers, logistics workers, storekeepers, security guards, pharmacists,
12 bank employees, delivery workers and other frontliners, in providing basic
13 services for the essential needs of the public during national emergencies
14 such as pandemics, calamities, disasters and other crises;
- 15 b. Highlight the heroism of our frontliners in providing, protecting and
16 delivering public health, safety and welfare services, maintaining public
17 order and security, keeping the economy running, and supporting the
18 country and its people in enduring the challenges and difficulties during
19 national emergencies;

- 1 c. Acknowledge the contribution of the employers who have supported these
2 frontliners in ensuring the continuous flow of and making available
3 essential goods and services during crises; and
4 d. Institutionalize the annual celebration that gives honor to our frontliners
5 for their essential role and heroic response to the needs of the Filipino
6 people.
7

8 **SEC. 4. *Lead Agencies.*** – The Department of Health, the Department of Trade
9 and Industry, and the Department of Labor and Employment, as the lead agencies,
10 in coordination with the Civil Service Commission, Department of Interior and Local
11 Government and other government agencies, are mandated to conduct activities and
12 programs that promote the principles and values espoused by our frontliners as well
13 as honor and/or reward our frontliners for their essential role in the delivery of public
14 services, recovery and nation building during national emergencies.
15

16 **SEC. 5. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions
17 of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following
18 its enactment into law, and every year thereafter, as may be necessary.
19

20 **SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from
21 the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health, the Department of Labor and
22 Employment and the Civil Service Commission shall promulgate the necessary rules
23 and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act. Such rules and regulations
24 shall take effect immediately thereafter.
25

26 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held
27 invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions hereof which are not
28 affected shall remain in full force and effect.
29

30 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive
31 orders, administrative orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent
32 with, or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby modified, amended, or
33 repealed accordingly.
34

35 **SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
36 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

1

2

Approved,