



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 180



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE AURELIO "DONG" D. GONZALES, JR.

**AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 15 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN
THE PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA TO BE KNOWN AS THE "MT. PINATUBO MEMORIAL
DAY"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

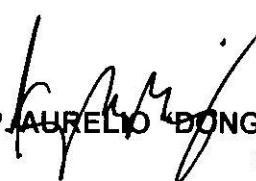
The eruption of Mt. Pinatubo on June 15, 1991, the second-largest in the 20th century, caused massive destruction to the provinces of Zambales, Pampanga, Bataan, Tarlac and Nueva Ecija.

Pampanga, one of the hardest hit provinces, saw her towns being buried under tons of lahar, displacing many constituents, and forcing them to stay in relocation centers. The province, which has slowly recovered from the catastrophe, is continuously rebuilding—a living testament to the versatility of the Filipino people.

In observance of the 30th anniversary of the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo last year, Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea under the authority of the President Rodrigo Duterte signed Proclamation No. 1159 declaring June 15, 2021 as a special non-working holiday in the Province of Pampanga. This is to "render appropriate tribute to those who perished, as well as to those who survived, and to those who helped in the relocation, rehabilitation, and recovery of families affected by the volcanic eruption."

It is only fitting that we commemorate this event every year thereafter, not to dwell on the pain and suffering it caused, but rather to inspire all of us to work for the betterment of our communities; that despite the seemingly overwhelming odds, we stood united, faced the challenges and emerged as better Filipinos.

It is for these reasons that we seek for the immediate enactment of this measure.


REP. AURELIO "DONG" D. GONZALES, JR.
3rd District, Pampanga

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

SECTION 1. June 15 of every year is hereby declared a special nonworking holiday in the Province of Pampanga, in remembrance of the ruinous volcanic eruption of Mt. Pinatubo, to be known as the "Mt. Pinatubo Memorial Day".

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

Approved,