

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Sessions

House Bill No. 381



Introduced by Rep. Maria Rachel J. Arenas

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare October 5 of every year a special non-working holiday to commemorate National Teachers' Day, amending for the purpose, Republic Act (RA) No. 10743 entitled, "*An Act Declaring the Fifth Day of October of Every Year as the National Teachers' Day.*"

Teachers and educators play a vital role not only in shaping the lives of the students to be good members of the society but also in nation-building by morally molding the characters and personality of youth and future leaders. Section 3 (2), Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution guides the teachers and educators on what to teach, to wit:

"Section 3. (2) They shall inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline, encourage critical and creative thinking, broaden scientific and technological knowledge, and promote vocational efficiency."

The teaching profession is a noble profession. In fact, as early as 1966, the International Labor Organization and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted the Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. The recommendation sets forth the rights and responsibilities of teachers, and the standards for their initial preparation, ongoing professional development, recruitment, employment, teaching and learning conditions. It also contains numerous recommendations for teachers' participation in educational decisions through social dialogue and negotiation with educational authorities.

Since 1994, the World Teachers' Day is celebrated every fifth day of October to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the 1966 Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, and promote its implementation among member states of the United Nations. In 1997, UNESCO adopted the Recommendation

concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel, which sets forth the rights and responsibilities of higher-education teaching and research personnel.

The State recognizes the essential role of teachers in the educational and moral advancement of the people, and the importance of their contribution to the development of our society. Teachers provide the power of education, especially to the youth, thereby giving them the possibility for a better future.

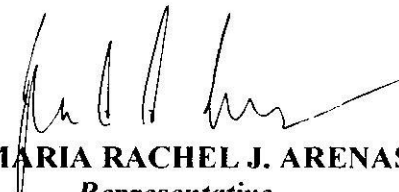
In recognizing the important role of teachers and educators, several laws have been enacted for their benefits such as RA 4670, otherwise known as the "*Magna Carta for Public School Teachers*," RA 6728, as amended, otherwise known as the "*Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education Act*," RA 7836, as amended, otherwise known as the "*Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act of 1994*," and RA 8190, entitled "*An Act Granting Priority to Residents of the Barangay, Municipality or City where the School is Located, in the Appointment or Assignment of Classroom Public School Teachers*."

Presidential Proclamation No. 41, Series of 2010 introduced the "National Teachers' Month" that was made permanent by Presidential Proclamation No. 242, Series of 2011, which declared the period from 05 September to 05 October of every year as "National Teachers' Month."

In 2016, RA 10743 was enacted declaring the fifth day of October of every year as the "National Teachers' Day," to coincide with the World Teachers' Day declared by UNESCO on the same day every year. On this special working day, teachers are honored for all their hard work and sacrifices. Despite the recognition given them, the teachers continue their daily routine of preparing for their classes, managing the students in the classroom, and ensuring that the lessons are understood and absorbed.

To truly commemorate that special day for teachers, this bill proposes to declare the fifth day of October of every year a special non-working holiday in the entire country. Teachers and educators shall have the opportunity to let up from their usual classroom workload and routine. Further, the bill emphasizes the participation of the entire country to dedicate a special non-working holiday for honoring teachers and recognizing the lasting contributions they make to our lives.

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



MARIA RACHEL J. ARENAS
Representative
Third District, Pangasinan

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Sessions

House Bill No. 381

Introduced by Rep. Maria Rachel J. Arenas

AN ACT

DECLARING OCTOBER 5 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY TO COMMEMORATE “NATIONAL TEACHERS’ DAY,” AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10743 ENTITLED, “AN ACT DECLARING THE FIFTH DAY OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL TEACHERS’ DAY”

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 10743 is amended to read as follows: **“SECTION. 1. National Teachers’ Day.** – The fifth day of October of every year is declared as A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY, TO BE KNOWN AS the “National Teachers’ Day” TO COMMEMORATE AND HONOR FILIPINO TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS FOR THEIR VITAL ROLE IN NATION-BUILDING.

To ensure a meaningful observance of this special NON-WORKING holiday, all heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned and -controlled corporations especially those that are directly dealing with the teachers, including local government units, and employers in the private sector, shall encourage their employees to participate in any activity THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MAY RECOMMEND in celebration of the “National Teachers’ 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,