

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 3697

INTRODUCED BY CONGRESSMAN STEVE CHIONGBIAN SOLON

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Every month of October is “National Indigenous Peoples Month” by virtue of Proclamation No. 1906. This is in support of the constitutional mandate that the State recognizes and promotes the rights of the IPs within the framework of national unity and development that paved the way for the passage of the landmark legislation, the IPRA Law, Republic Act No. 8371 or the Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Act.

Sarangani Province has been successfully spearheading the celebration of National IP Month every October in collaboration with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), the academe and the participative indigenous cultural communities.

It is home to five (5) Lumad groups, namely the Blaan, Tboli, Tagakaulo, Ubo and Manobo. They comprise roughly forty percent (40%) of the total population of Sarangani. Thus, it deserves recognition and should be celebrated annually in order to continuously promote their welfare.

This bill, therefore, seeks to declare October 27 of every year a special non-working holiday in Sarangani Province in recognition of the existence of the Indigenous Peoples which constitute a large portion of the population of the province and have contributed to its rich and diverse cultural heritage.

The people of Sarangani must be given the full opportunity to celebrate and participate in the occasion with appropriate ceremonies fostering unity amidst diversity.

Based on the legislative tracking of the House of Representatives, a similar version of this bill was approved by the House on August 3, 2021 and transmitted to and received by the Senate on the following day, August 4, 2021.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

STEVE CHIONGBIAN SOLON
Representative
Lone District of Sarangani Province

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HOUSE BILL NO. 3697

INTRODUCED BY HON. STEVE CHIONGBIAN SOLON

AN ACT
DECLARING OCTOBER TWENTY-SEVEN OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-
WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF SARANGANI IN CELEBRATION OF
THE “IP DAY”

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

SECTION 1. October 27 of every year is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in the Province of Sarangani in celebration of the “IP Day” to recognize the existence of the Indigenous Peoples which constitute a large portion of the population of the province and have contributed to its rich and diverse cultural heritage.

SECTION 2. The people of Sarangani shall be given the full opportunity to celebrate and participate in the occasion with appropriate ceremonies fostering unity amidst diversity.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper/s of general circulation.

Approved,