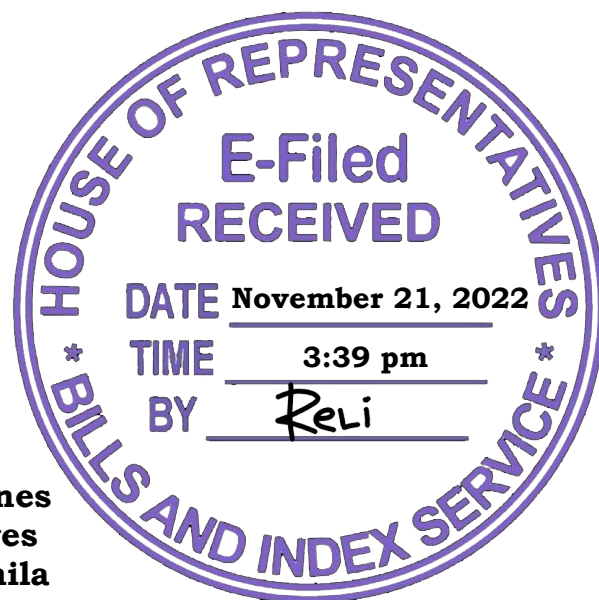




**Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 6242



Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare 18 January of every year as “Araw ng mga Kasambahay,” a nonworking holiday for all the kasambahay. Under Section 39 of Republic Act No. 10361, otherwise known as the “Domestic Workers Act” or “Batas Kasambahay,” the date upon which the President shall approve the “Domestic Workers Act” shall be the “Araw ng mga Kasambahay.” The Domestic Workers Act was signed into law on 18 January 2013.

Domestic worker or “kasambahay” as defined under Section 4, paragraph (d) of Republic Act No. 10361 refers to any person engaged in domestic work within an employment relationship such as, but not limited to, the following: general house help, nursemaid or “yaya,” cook, gardener, or laundry person, but shall exclude any person who performs domestic work only occasionally or sporadically and not on an occupational basis.

Before the passage of Republic Act No. 10361, 2.9 million domestic household workers in the Philippines grappled with the harsh conditions attendant to their everyday work and had nothing to safeguard their rights and welfare. This labor and social landmark legislation recognize domestic workers as heroes in our households whose rights and interests should be strengthened, protected, and promoted.

The critical role that domestic workers play in the growth of Filipino society is indisputable. Domestic workers dedicate their efforts to promoting the well-being of their employers. They ensure that the homes they manage are in excellent and orderly condition. They cook, wash and iron clothes, clean the house, and take care of the kids and their pets, among other household duties. With the help of domestic workers, employers have the time and luxury to work and pursue their careers and still manage to have a happy and healthy family.

Setting a special day for the kasambahay and declaring it a nonworking holiday for all the kasambahay in the whole country is a way of giving due recognition and great appreciation for the invaluable service they render to every home and family. Therefore, 18 January shall be “Araw ng mga Kasambahay,” and this bill gives our Kasambahay a work-free day for them to attend to the activities that the Department of Labor and Employment may organize or to do their much-needed personal errands.

Hence, this representation seeks the passage of this measure.



RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS I



**Republic of the Philippines
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HOUSE BILL NO. 6242

Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

**AN ACT DECLARING JANUARY 18 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL
NONWORKING HOLIDAY FOR ALL KASAMBAHAY IN THE ENTIRE
COUNTRY TO BE KNOWN AS “ARAW NG KASAMBAHAY”**

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

1
2 **SECTION 1.** January 18 of every year is hereby declared a special
3 nonworking holiday for all *kasambahay* in the entire country to be known as
4 “*Araw ng Kasambahay*”. In the event that the special day falls on a weekend, the
5 special nonworking holiday shall be observed on the Friday of that week.
6

7 **SEC. 2.** For purposes of this Act, the term “*kasambahay*” is defined under
8 Section 4 (d) of Republic Act No. 10361, otherwise known as the “*Domestic*
9 *Workers Act*” or “*Batas Kasambahay*”
10

11 **SEC. 3.** The Secretary of Labor and Employment shall, in coordination with
12 the Secretary of Education and the Director-General of the Philippine
13 Information Agency, plan and implement activities of the continuing
14 dissemination and information campaign to honor the *kasambahay*.
15

16 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
17 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
18

19 Approved,