



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

Nineteenth Congress

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **7903**



Introduced by:
HON. MARISSA "DEL MAR" MAGSINO
OFW PARTYLIST

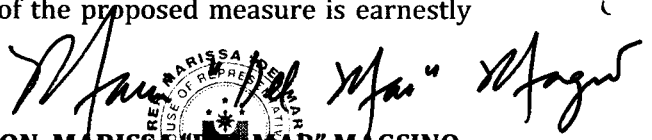
EXPLANATORY NOTE

We acknowledge our Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) as our 'modern day heroes' for a very good reason. Their financial contribution through remittances offers a lifeline to families and spur local markets as well as the national economy. Our OFWs have proven to be a source of prosperity, innovation, and sustainable development of our country and even their host countries.

On December 18, 1990, the United Nations' General Assembly adopted a resolution on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It reaffirms the global community's commitment to promoting a humane and orderly management of migration for the benefit of all, including the communities of origin, transit, and destination. In commemoration of the event, December 18 of every year was proclaimed International Migrants Day.¹

This bill seeks to declare December 18 of every year as a special working holiday in the entire country to be referred to as the "Overseas Filipino Workers' Day" in recognition of the important contributions of OFWs to nation-building and in respect of their personal sacrifices. For helping keep the country afloat with pride and honor, it is but fitting to honor them and designate a special day celebrating our OFWs – *ang bida ng ating bayan*.

For these reasons, the immediate enactment of the proposed measure is earnestly urged.


HON. MARISSA "DEL MAR" MAGSINO
Assistant Minority Leader

NOT VALID WITHOUT OFFICIAL SEAL

¹ Source: United Nations. *International Migrants Day December 18*. Retrived from: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/migrants-day#:~:text=Every%20year%20on%2018th%20December,highlighting%20the%20challenges%20they%20face>.



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AN ACT
DECLARING DECEMBER 18 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE
PHILIPPINES TO BE KNOWN AS THE 'OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS' DAY'

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

Section 1. December 18 of every year is hereby declared a special working holiday in the entire country and shall be referred to as the 'Overseas Filipino Workers' Day' in recognition of the important contributions of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) to the national economy while highlighting the challenges and sacrifices they face in the course of their employment in host countries around the world.

Section 2. To ensure meaningful observance of the holiday as herein declared, all heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned and controlled corporations as well as local government units, shall encourage and afford sufficient time and opportunities for their employees to engage and participate in any activity conducted within the premises of their respective offices or establishments to celebrate 'Overseas Filipino Workers' Day'.

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

Approved.