

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10881



Introduced by Rep. Ray T. Reyes

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Alcohol consumption is deeply embedded in various cultural and social practices around the world, including the Philippines. The country has embraced Oktoberfest, a festival traditionally celebrated in Germany, which has become synonymous with beer and alcohol consumption. While such festivities can foster camaraderie and cultural exchange, they also highlight the need for increased awareness about the potential risks associated with alcohol consumption.

The proposed bill seeks to declare September of every year as "National Alcohol Harms Awareness Month," with September 30 designated as "National Alcohol Harms Awareness Day." This initiative aims to promote education and awareness about the responsible consumption of alcohol and the health risks associated with excessive drinking.

Statistics indicate that younger individuals are disproportionately affected by alcohol-related issues. These include not only the immediate risks of accidents and injuries but also long-term health consequences such as liver disease, addiction, and mental health disorders. By focusing on awareness, we can better equip our youth with the knowledge to make informed decisions regarding alcohol consumption.

By establishing September as National Alcohol Awareness Month and September 30 as National Alcohol Awareness Day, we aim to foster a culture of informed and responsible alcohol consumption, ultimately contributing to the health and well-being of all Filipinos.

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


RAY REYES
Representative, Anakalusugan Party-List

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER OF EVERY YEAR AS THE
“NATIONAL ALCOHOL HARMS AWARENESS MONTH” AND SEPTEMBER 30
AS “NATIONAL ALCOHOL HARMS AWARENESS DAY”

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the **“National Alcohol Harms Awareness Month Act.”**

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is declared a policy of the State to protect the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. To achieve this end, the State shall prioritize the promulgation and implementation of programs that promote health literacy and a healthy lifestyle among its constituents. Likewise, the State shall promote programs that are aimed at enhancing public awareness and consciousness on the diseases, injuries, and other conditions brought about by alcohol use and consumption.

SECTION 3. *Awareness Month and Awareness Day.* – The month of September of every year is hereby declared as “National Alcohol Harms Awareness Month”, with September 30 of each year as “National Alcohol Harms Awareness Day”, to educate and raise awareness on the harms and dangers of overconsumption of alcohol.

Pursuant to the observance of the National Alcohol Harms Awareness Month and Day, an annual program of activities shall be prepared and implemented by the Department of Health (DOH). The DOH is authorized to call upon any department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations for any assistance that may be deemed necessary in the execution of the tasks under this Act.

SECTION 4. *Media Campaign.* – The Philippine Information Agency (PIA), in coordination with the DOH, shall ensure the effective information dissemination of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Multisectoral Effort.* – All local government units (LGUs) and private organizations including civil society organizations, private organizations, and nongovernment, civic, and people's organizations, and state universities and colleges, are encouraged to observe the National Alcohol Harms Awareness Month and participate in the activities.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provisions of this Act are declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,