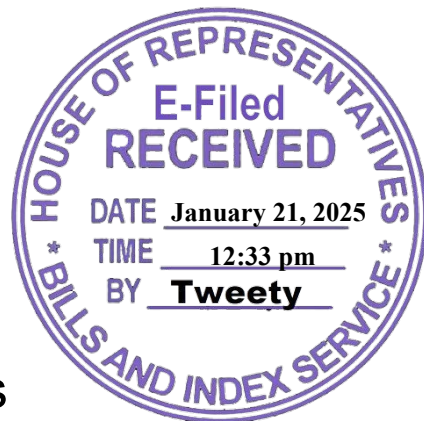




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 11319

Introduced by
Representative Mujiv S. Hataman

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The introduction of Islam in the Philippines holds a profound historical significance that has contributed to the country's rich cultural heritage and diversity.

The arrival of Sheikh Karim'ul Makhdum in 14th century marked a pivotal moment in Philippine history, as it led to the establishment of the first mosque in the country on the island of Simunul, Tawi-Tawi. This important piece of history not only introduced Islamic teachings and practices but also fostered a lasting legacy of faith, governance and cultural identity among Filipino Muslims.

Recognizing the contributions of Muslim Filipinos is a crucial step in promoting inclusivity and national unity. Islam has played an essential role in shaping the nation's cultural fabric, influencing various aspects of life, including trade, governance and community development, particularly in Mindanao and other parts of the country.

This measure aims to accomplish this by declaring November 7 of every year as a special national working holiday, effectively honoring the invaluable contributions of Muslim Filipinos to the country's progress and development. The commemoration of "Sheikh Karim'ul Makhdum Day" also serves as a platform to educate the public on the significant historical and cultural contributions of Islam in the Philippines.

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



REP. MUJIV S. HATAMAN

Representative, Lone District of Basilan



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AN ACT

**DECLARING THE SEVENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER OF EVERY YEAR A
SPECIAL NATIONAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST PHILIPPINE MOSQUE AND THE
INTRODUCTION OF ISLAM IN THE PHILIPPINES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Sheikh Karim’ul Makhdum Day*”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to instill inclusivity to all regardless of religious beliefs, in line with the constitutional right to freely exercise and enjoy their religion. Moreover, it is the State’s policy to provide due recognition to the indispensable contribution of Muslim Filipinos in the development of Philippine culture and civilization.

SEC. 3. *National Holiday.* – Every seventh (7th) day of November hereinafter is hereby declared as “*Sheikh Karim’ul Makhdum Day*”, a special national working holiday in commemoration of the establishment of the first Philippine Mosque, and the introduction of Islam in the Philippines.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation,

Approved,