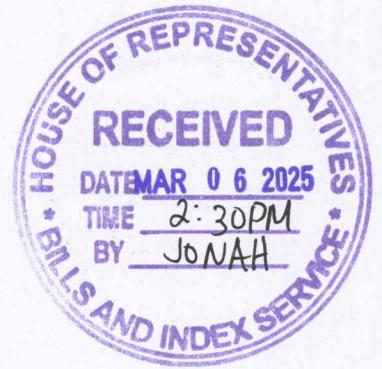


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 11476



Introduced by AKBAYAN Representative Percival Cendaña

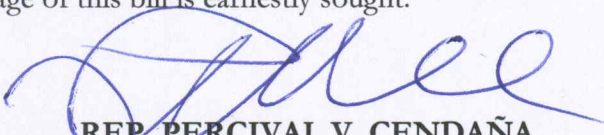
EXPLANATORY NOTE

“Kasambahay” literally means a household companion, our *kasama sa bahay* whom generations of Filipino households have relied on for various household chores – cooking, cleaning, laundry, gardening, and taking care of children, among others. Based on a Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) survey conducted in October 2019, there are about 1.4 million Filipinos working as *kasambahays*.¹

Republic Act No. 10361 or the Domestic Workers Act, or more popularly referred to as the *Kasambahay Law*, was enacted on 18 January 2013. This landmark law which instituted policies for the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of *kasambahays* came in the heels of the International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention No. 189 or the Domestic Workers Convention, which the Philippines ratified on 5 September 2012.

In commemoration of the enactment of the *Kasambahay Law*, this bill seeks to declare a day in honor of our *kasambahays* and recognize their invaluable contribution to the well-being of families and communities across the country. The National *Kasambahay Day* or *Araw ng Kasambahay* shall be a special non-working day for all *kasambahays*. It shall serve not only as day of recognition for *kasambahays*, but also as a reminder to implementing offices and agencies of the *Kasambahay Law*, household employers, and the general public, to support fair wages and provide safe and healthful working conditions for an often-marginalized sector, in pursuit of promoting the overall general welfare of our *kasambahays*.

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


REP. PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA
AKBAYAN PARTYLIST

¹ National Wages and Productivity Commission. (17 February 2021). DOLE and PSA Survey: 1.4 million kasambahays in the country, 72% on live-out arrangement, available at <https://nwpc.dole.gov.ph/dole-and-psa-survey-1-4-million-kasambahays-in-the-country-72-on-live-out-arrangement-2/>

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **11476**

Introduced by **AKBAYAN Representative Percival Cendaña**

AN ACT
DECLARING JANUARY 18 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING
HOLIDAY FOR ALL KASAMBAHAYS IN THE PHILIPPINES

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “National *Kasambahay*
2 Day” or “*Araw ng Kasambahay*” Act.

3
4 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policies.** – It is hereby declared that the State shall protect
5 the workers, promote full employment and provide equal opportunities regardless of sex,
6 race and religious belief, and regulate policies and relations between workers and
7 employers. The State shall also guarantee the rights of the workers to self-organization,
8 collection bargaining, security of tenure, and just and humane working conditions. As
9 stated in the International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention No. 189 or the Decent
10 Work for Domestic Workers Convention ratified by the Philippine government in May
11 2012, it is the responsibility of the State to recognize the significant contributions of
12 domestic workers to the local and global economy, which includes increasing paid job
13 opportunities for women and men with family responsibilities, and greater scope for caring
14 for ageing populations, children, and persons with disability.

15
16 **Sec. 3. Definition of *Kasambahay*.** – A *kasambahay* or domestic worker as
17 defined in Republic Act (RA) No. 10361 or *Batas Kasambahay* refers to any person engaged
18 in domestic work within an employment relationship such as, but not limited to, the
19 following: general house help, nursemaid or “yaya”, cook, gardener, or laundry person, but
20 shall exclude any person who performs domestic work only occasionally or sporadically
21 and not on an occupational basis.

1
2 **Sec. 4. National *Kasambahay* Day or *Araw ng Kasambahay*.** – In recognition
3 of the contribution of domestic workers to Filipino families and society in general, January
4 18 of every year is hereby declared as a special non-working holiday for all *kasambahays*
5 and shall be known as the National *Kasambahay* Day or *Araw ng Kasambahay*.
6

7 In the event that this day falls on their rest day, the employer shall pay the
8 corresponding salary or compensation for the *kasambahays* who will be required to work
9 on this day, in compliance with the relevant provisions of RA No. 10361 or *Batas*
10 *Kasambahay*.
11

12 **Sec. 5. Role of Relevant Government Agencies.** – The Department of Labor
13 and Employment (DOLE), in coordination with the Philippine Information Agency (PIA),
14 shall lead in the national observance of the National *Kasambahay* Day or *Araw ng*
15 *Kasambahay*.
16

17 The heads of all departments, agencies, government-owned and controlled
18 corporations, local government units, and other governmental instrumentalities shall
19 support the DOLE in its activities related to the observance of the National *Kasambahay*
20 Day or *Araw ng Kasambahay*.
21

22 **Sec. 6. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
23 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,