

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3102



Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE ARNULF BRYAN “ARNIE” B. FUENTEBELLA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sec. 18 of the Art. II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that:

“Section 18. The State affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare”

This bill seeks to declare Election Day, which falls on the second Monday of May every three years in accordance with Sec. 2 of Republic Act No. 7166. Art. 94 (c) enumerates regular holidays, which includes “...the day designated by law for holding a general election.” Both our Constitution and the Omnibus Election Code indicate the second Monday of May as election day.

Our current rules only give the President the authority to declare Election Day as a special non-working holiday. Article 93 of the Labor Code applies, entitling the employee an additional 30% in pay; for those who do not work, no compensation is given. This incentivizes labor while discouraging citizens from exercising their right to suffrage.

Given the original intent of the Labor Code and our collective desire to have our citizens exercise their right to vote, I humbly propose to amend existing laws to declare Election Day as a regular holiday.

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


ARNULF BRYAN “ARNIE” B. FUENTEBELLA
Representative
Fourth District, Camarines Sur

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3102

Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ARNULF BRYAN “ARNIE” B. FUENTEBELLA**

AN ACT DECLARING THE NATIONAL ELECTION DAY AS A REGULAR NON-WORKING HOLIDAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 26, CHAPTER 7, BOOK I OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby declared that the day on which the National Election falls be a regular non-working holiday, in view of the original intention of Presidential Decree No. 442 and to allow our citizens to fully exercise their right to suffrage.

SECTION 2. Section 26, Chapter 7, Book I of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as “The Administrative Code of 1987”, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 26. Regular Holidays and Nationwide Special Days – (1) Unless otherwise modified by law, order or proclamation, the following regular holidays and special days shall be observed in this country:

“(A) Regular Holidays

New Year’s Day	January 1
Maundy Thursday	Movable date
Good Friday	Movable date
Eid al-Fitr	Movable date
Eid al-Adha	Movable date

Araw ng Kagitingan (Bataan and Corregidor Day)	April 9
--	---------

Labor Day	May 1
-----------	-------

NATIONAL ELECTION DAY	DAY DESIGNATED BY LAW FOR HOLDING OF A NATIONAL ELECTION
----------------------------------	---

Independence Day	June 12
National Heroes Day	Last Sunday of August
Bonifacio Day	November 30

Christmas Day	December 25
Rizal Day	December 30

xxx”

SECTION 3. All laws, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved.