



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3325

Introduced by **HON. MA ISABEL L. SAGARBARRIA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Buglasan Festival, also known as “The Festival of Festivals”, is a highly anticipated annual event celebrated in Negros Oriental. Held in Dumaguete City, the provincial capital, the week-long festival takes place every fourth (4th) week of October, bringing together Negorenses from all 19 municipalities and 6 cities of the province.

The festival derives its name from the word “buglas” which refers to the tall marsh grasses that once grew abundantly across Negros Island. In fact, historical records show the island was once named as Buglas Insulis. The name honors the island’s natural heritage and serves as a symbolic connection to its rich cultural history.

Buglasan was conceived as a unifying celebration for the province, fostering camaraderie amidst diversity. It showcases the unique traditions, customs, and talents of the Negorenses, hailing from Canlaon City in the north to the Municipality of Basay on the south. This vibrant celebration features cultural presentations, town booths, and various competitions, serving as a platform to promote unity and preserve the province’s heritage.

In recognition of the festival’s cultural significance and its role in uniting the whole of the province of Negros Oriental, this bill seeks to declare every fourth (4th) Friday of October as a special non-working holiday to allow Negorenses to fully participate in the Buglasan Festival and celebrate their shared identity and heritage.


MA ISABEL L. SAGARBARRIA

Representative, 2nd District, Negros Oriental





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**AN ACT DECLARING EVERY 4TH FRIDAY OF OCTOBER AS A SPECIAL
NON-WORKING HOLIDAY FOR THE WHOLE PROVINCE OF NEGROS
ORIENTAL IN CELEBRATION OF THE BUGLASAN FESTIVAL**

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

SECTION 1. EVERY 4th Friday of October is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in the Province of Negros Oriental in celebration of the Buglasan Festival. This is to allow Negorenses to fully participate in said festival and celebrate their shared identity and heritage.

SECTION 2. All laws, orders, presidential issuances, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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,