



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4126

Introduced by Representative Nelson S. Legacion
Third Congressional District, Camarines Sur

Republic Act No. 9645, also known as the *Commemoration of the Founding Anniversary of Iglesia ni Cristo Act*, currently designates July 27 as a Special National Working Holiday. This date commemorates the founding anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo (INC) in the Philippines, marking the significant occasion in 1914 when Felix Manalo officially registered the INC as a religious organization. While we acknowledge the INC's profound historical, religious and cultural impact on our nation, its "working holiday" status presents an inherent limitation: it does not fully enable the substantial number of INC adherents to adequately observe and reflect upon the significance of this important day by allowing them sufficient time off their work.

This proposed amendment seeks to elevate the observance of July 27 by declaring it a special national non-working holiday. Declaring it a non-working holiday aligns with the established practice in the Philippines, where holidays, having historical, religious and cultural significance, are designated as non-working to allow for their proper observance.

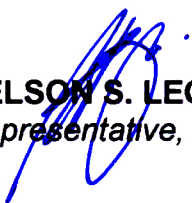
Providing a non-working day for our fellow brothers and sisters belonging to the INC, also offers a more profound and fitting acknowledgment of the INC's historical establishment and its enduring contributions to Philippine society. It also brings the observance of this significant event to the consciousness of the Filipino people, in line with other major non-working holidays, fostering consistency in our national holiday framework and demonstrating due respect for the religious observances of our citizens.

It represents a progressive step toward ensuring the INC community can appropriately commemorate events of profound importance to their faith and identity.

This proposed measure is the culmination of a consistent legislative effort, directly informed by similar bills filed in the 17th, 18th, and 19th Congresses. Notably, it has already reached its third and final reading and been transmitted to

the Senate in previous legislative sessions. This sustained pursuit underscores the broad support for the bill, including that of legislators Senators Jinggoy Estrada, Ramon Revilla Jr., and Robinhood Padilla, alongside numerous representatives from the House of Representatives in the 19th Congress.

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



NELSON S. LEGACION

Representative, Third District, Camarines Sur



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **4126**

Introduced by Representative Nelson S. Legacion
Third Congressional District, Camarines Sur

**AN ACT DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NATIONAL
NON-WORKING HOLIDAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 9645, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMMEMORATION OF THE
FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF IGLESIA NI CRISTO ACT"**

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

SECTION 1. *Amendment to Section 3 of Act No. 9645.* The said section is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. National Holiday. - July 27 of every year is hereby declared as a special national non-working holiday in commemoration of the founding anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo in the Philippines."

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules, or regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,