

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4143



Introduced by Rep. FERDINAND ALEXANDER A. MARCOS
1st District, Ilocos Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Vintar, a beautiful municipality in Ilocos Norte, is embraced by mountain ranges and graced with fertile valleys and rolling hills. Above its verdant fields and clear skies soars the *siwawer*, the Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*), a majestic raptor that has come to embody the strength and enduring spirit of the people of Vintar.

More than a bird of prey, the siwawer is a symbol of Vintar's identity and resilience. It is celebrated in festivals, woven into cultural attire, and reflected in traditions. Each December, the people of Vintar commemorate their heritage through the Siwawer Festival, beginning on December 4, which also marks Vintar Day, the foundation of the municipality when it was separated from the town of Bacarra. This annual celebration honors the town's achievers, promotes culture and the arts, fosters tourism, and strengthens environmental stewardship. It is a time for the community to come together in thanksgiving.

In view of its historic and cultural significance, a national legislation declaring December 4 of every year a special nonworking holiday in Vintar will institutionalize the observance, provide broader cultural acknowledgment, foster government collaboration and support, and ensure the long-term preservation of the heritage and traditions of the municipality.

Thus, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


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AN ACT
DECLARING DECEMBER 4 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VINTAR, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS
NORTE, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY AND
THE ANNUAL SIWAWER FESTIVAL

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

SECTION 1. December 4 of every year is hereby declared a special nonworking holiday in the Municipality of Vintar, Province of Ilocos Norte, in commemoration of its founding anniversary and the annual Siwawer Festival.

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,