

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

TWENTIETH (20th) CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **4978**



Introduced by **Hon. ELEANOR C. BULUT - BEGTANG**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the 14th day of February of every year as special non-working holiday in the Province of Apayao, in commemoration of its Founding Day, to be known as the "Apayao Day".

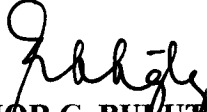
The Province of Apayao traces its roots to Republic Act (RA) No. 4695 which created the Provinces of Benguet, Mountain Province, Ifugao and Kalinga-Apayao. On 14 February 1995, RA No. 4695 was amended by RA No. 7878, otherwise known as "*An Act Converting the Sub-provinces of Kalinga and Apayao into Regular Provinces to be Known as the Province of Kalinga and the Province of Apayao, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 4965*", authored by then Kalinga-Apayao Representative Elias K. Bulut, Sr. and was signed into law by President Fidel V. Ramos.

The province of Apayao, a landlocked province in the Cordillera Administrative Region, is composed of seven municipalities namely: Calanasan, Conner, Flora, Luna, Kabugao, Pudtol, and Sta. Marcela. The province has a total land area of 1,704.00 square meters and based on the 2020 census, it has a population of 124,366.

In recognition of the hard work and efforts of men and women behind the historic founding of the province of Apayao, and to allow the local community to celebrate and participate in its annual celebrations, February 14th of every year was declared as a Special Non-Working Holiday in the Province of Apayao through the passage of Provincial Ordinance No. 1, series of 2014.

Twenty-nine (29) years after the enactment of RA 7878 and considering the various accomplishments and developments in the province while ruminating on its historic founding in 1995, it is high-time that the Province of Apayao's Founding Day be declared as a special non-working holiday through legislation.

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


ELEANOR C. BULUT-BEGTANG
Representative
Lone District of Apayao

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**AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY 14TH OF EVERY YEAR A
SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF APAYAO
IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING DAY,
TO BE KNOWN AS “APAYAO DAY”**

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

SECTION 1. February 14 of every year is hereby declared a special nonworking holiday in the Province of Apayao in commemoration of its Founding Day, to be known as “Apayao Day”.

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

Approved,