

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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6124



Introduced by **REP. RAYMOND ADRIAN E. SALCEDA**

AN ACT
DECLARING OCTOBER 19 OF EVERY YEAR AS PEDRO SABIDO DAY, A
SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF POLANGUI,
PROVINCE OF ALBAY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pedro Ribaya Sabido was born on October 19, 1894 in the Municipality of Polangui, Province of Albay. A scholar of exceptional ability, he completed his early education in Polangui and graduated with highest distinction from the Colegio Seminario de Nueva Cáceres in 1912. He later obtained degrees in Philosophy and Letters and in Law from the University of Santo Tomas in 1916, consistently earning *sobresaliente* marks. In the same year, he passed the bar examinations. His academic and intellectual achievements later earned him recognition as a Corresponding Member of the Real Academia Española in 1927, one of the few Filipinos given this honor.

His public service career began in 1922 when he was elected Representative of the Third District of Albay. He served in the Philippine Legislature for sixteen years and chaired important committees, including Public Works, Revision of Laws, and Mines. He served as Floor Leader and gained respect across political lines for his clarity of thought and firm sense of public duty. Among his most enduring contributions was his authorship and sponsorship of the Women's Suffrage Act, which granted Filipino women the right to vote and the right to be elected to public office. He also authored the Mining Act, the NAFCO Act creating the National Abaca and Other Fibers Corporation, and measures promoting moral instruction and social development.

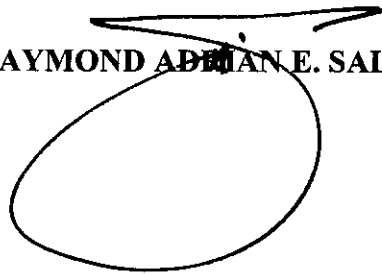
He later served as Chairman and General Manager of the National Abaca and Other Fibers Corporation during the Commonwealth period. During the Japanese occupation, he was appointed Minister of Economic Affairs, where he acted with prudence during a difficult period in national life. After the war, he was appointed by President Ramon Magsaysay as Ambassador to Spain and the Vatican. For his work in strengthening Philippine Spanish relations, he received Spain's Gran Cruz de Isabel la Católica.

In 1955, he was elected Senator of the Philippines. He chaired the Committees on Banks, Corporations, and Franchises, and the Committee on Health, while serving on major committees on Foreign Relations, Finance, and National Defense. For five consecutive years, from 1956 to 1961, he was cited by the press among the Outstanding Senators of the Year.

Beyond government, Senator Sabido was an educator and institution builder. He co-founded the Lyceum of the Philippines and served as Chairman of its Board of Trustees. He taught law at the Lyceum, the Far Eastern University, and the University of Manila, shaping generations of Filipino lawyers. He was also a strong advocate for development in the Bicol region, supporting infrastructure and industrial initiatives needed for economic progress.

A scholar, statesman, legislator, diplomat, and educator, Pedro Sabido embodied the highest ideals of public service. His life's work enriched Philippine democracy, strengthened national institutions, and elevated the position of Albay and the Bicol region in the nation's history. Declaring October 19 as Pedro Sabido Day in the Municipality of Polangui is a fitting recognition of his contributions and an opportunity for future generations to honor the legacy of one of Albay's most distinguished sons.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


RAYMOND ADRIAN E. SALCEDA

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration.* – October 19 of every year is hereby declared as Pedro Sabido Day, a special working holiday in the Municipality of Polangui, Province of Albay, in honor of Senator Pedro Sabido's legacy and contributions to public service.

SEC. 2. *Observance.* – The Municipality of Polangui, in coordination with relevant national agencies and local organizations, shall conduct appropriate programs and activities commemorating the life and service of Senator Pedro Sabido.

SEC. 3. *Separability Clause.* – If any part of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,