

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6213



Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING

AN ACT
DECLARING APRIL 26 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALIAGA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, IN
COMMEMORATION OF THE FEAST OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LAS SALERAS, TO BE
KNOWN AS "FEAST DAY OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LAS SALERAS"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Nuestra Señora de las Saleras Parish is the only parish in the Philippines dedicated to Our Lady of the Vessel of Salt. Located in the Municipality of Aliaga, Province of Nueva Ecija, the parish was founded by Augustinian missionaries in 1849.

Presumably, the Augustinians placed Our Lady of the Vessel of Salt in Aliaga due to the town being flood-prone. Locals state that a great flood in 1936 threatened to submerge the whole town, which would have resulted in hundreds of casualties and huge financial losses. Aliaga's residents claim that when a woman with long flowing hair was seen in the town, the raging flood waters subsided. They swore that the unknown lady was their beloved Nuestra Señora de las Saleras, who had come to their aid. Devotion to Our Lady remains strong, with St. John Paul II through Most Reverend Balce inaugurating the parish as a Pilgrimage Church in 2000, and with Most Reverend Bancud elevating the status of the parish to Diocesan Shrine on September 7, 2013.

Since the establishment of the parish, progress and development followed. This transformed the community of Aliaga into the bustling municipality it is today.

In honor of Aliaga's patron and in vital recognition of the rich history of the municipality, this bill seeks to declare the Feast of Nuestra Señora de las Saleras as a local non-working holiday.

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

MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING
1st District of Nueva Ecija

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6213

Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING

AN ACT
DECLARING APRIL 26 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALIAGA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA,
IN COMMEMORATION OF THE FEAST OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LAS
SALERAS, TO BE KNOWN AS “FEAST DAY OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LAS
SALERAS”

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

SECTION 1. April 26 of every year is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in the Municipality of Aliaga, Province of Nueva Ecija, in commemoration of the Feast of Nuestra Señora de las Saleras, to be known as “Feast Day of Nuestra Señora de las Saleras”.

SEC. 2. *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,