



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

20th CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6709

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE JENNIFER A. LAGBAS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For three decades, the Municipality of Balingasag in the Province of Misamis Oriental has celebrated Araw ng Balingasag every 21st of May, marking the town's rich history, cultural identity, and collective aspirations. Since 1995, this annual celebration has served as a unifying event for residents across all barangays, fostering civic pride and strengthening community ties through various cultural, historical, and developmental activities.

Despite the long-standing observance of this important local tradition, there is still no official declaration designating May 21 as a special non-working local holiday. As a result, participation remains limited, as regular work obligations prevent many constituents from fully taking part in the festivities. This undermines the very purpose of the celebration, which is to bring the community together and honor the municipality's heritage.

Accordingly, this bill seeks to declare May 21 of every year as a Special Non-Working Local Holiday in the Municipality of Balingasag, Misamis Oriental, in celebration of Araw ng Balingasag. This legislative measure will not only formalize an established tradition but will also support local culture, promote community participation, and strengthen civic unity.

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


HON. JENNIFER A. LAGBAS
Representative
First District, Misamis Oriental



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AN ACT
DECLARING MAY 21 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALINGASA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL

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

SECTION 1. May 21 of every year is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in the Municipality of Balingasag, Province of Misamis Oriental to be known as “Araw ng Balingasag.”

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

Approved,