

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7772



Introduced by Honorable EULOGIO "LEO" R. RODRIGUEZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Municipality of Bato is one of the satellite municipalities of the Province of Catanduanes, strategically located approximately twenty (20) minutes from the heart of the capital town of Virac. Over the years, Bato has played a vital role in the social, cultural, and economic life of the province, serving as the link between the capital town and eastern and northeastern municipalities of the province.

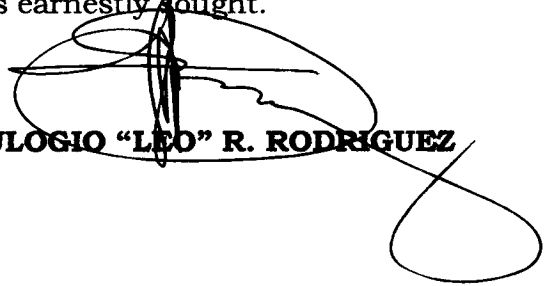
While the precise date of the town's early political establishment proved difficult, historical records retrieved from the National Archives and National Historical Institute revealed an old Spanish manuscript entitled "Ereccion de los Pueblos," which documented the congregation of the town on April 15, 1799. This date stands as the most reliable historical basis for commemorating the foundation of the municipality of Bato, which was recognized into a full-fledged municipality in 1986.

This bill seeks to declare the 15th of April of every year as a special non-working holiday in the Municipality of Bato, Province of Catanduanes, to be known as the Bato Foundation Day. This measure aims to institutionalize the observance of this significant historical milestone in recognition of the town's origins, heritage, and continuing contribution to provincial development.

Declaring the municipal foundation day as a special non-working holiday provides the people of Bato the time and opportunity to meaningfully celebrate their foundation as a community. The observance encourages wider participation in cultural, historical, and civic activities, strengthen local identity and unity, and promote pride in town's rich heritage and resilience, thereby stimulating tourism-related activities, supporting local enterprises, and contributing to economic development.

Ultimately, the celebration serves not only as a tribute to the past but also as an affirmation of the collective spirit and aspirations of the people of Bato.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


EULOGIO "LEO" R. RODRIGUEZ

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AN ACT
DECLARING APRIL 15 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATO, PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES TO CELEBRATE
THE FOUNDATION DAY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATO

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

SECTION 1. April 15 of every year is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in the Municipality of Bato, Province of Catanduanes, in celebration of the "Foundation Day of the Municipality of Bato."

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,