

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City
Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 7911

Introduced by Honorable Representatives
JOSE MANUEL TADEO “CHEL” I. DIOKNO (Akbayan Partylist)
PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA (Akbayan Partylist)
DADAH KIRAM ISMULA (Akbayan Partylist)
KAKA BAG-AO (Dinagat Islands)

AN ACT
DECLARING FEBRUARY 25 OF EVERY YEAR AS A REGULAR
HOLIDAY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

More than a mere date in the calendar, February 25, 1986 stands as one of the most defining moments in Philippine history. On this day, millions of Filipinos gathered along Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA) in a peaceful, non-violent uprising that restored democratic institutions and ended years of authoritarian rule under the Marcos regime. The EDSA People Power Revolution demonstrated to the world the sovereign will of a united people committed to freedom, constitutional government, and the rule of law.¹ It restored democratic space, revived independent institutions, and paved the way for the ratification of the 1987 Constitution, which enshrined safeguards against tyranny and strengthened the protection of civil liberties and human rights.

¹ Sofia Tomacruz *People Power in the Philippines a “Bright Spot” for the World in 1986*, Rappler (Feb. 24, 2022), <https://www.rappler.com/newsbreak/iq/people-power-philippines-world-bright-spot-1986>

However, in recent years, the observance of February 25 has been subject to varying classifications, at times diminishing the full recognition of its historical and civic significance.² Given its profound impact on the nation's democratic life, the State has the duty to preserve historical truth and honor the collective courage of the Filipino people.

For this purpose, this bill declares February 25 as a regular holiday, thereby ensuring its solemn and meaningful commemoration nationwide. This bill likewise provides for the necessary appropriations to support commemorative and educational activities, particularly through the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.

Institutionalizing EDSA People Power Day as a regular holiday is a declaration that the spirit of People Power Revolution remains central to our national identity. It is a reminder that democratic institutions endure only when citizens remain vigilant and engaged.



JOSE MANUEL TADEO
“CHEL” I. DIOKNO
Akbayan Representative



PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA
Akbayan Representative



DADAH KIRAM ISMULA
Akbayan Representative



KAKA J. BAG-AO
Dinagat Islands Representative

² Christina Chi, *Catholic schools urged to declare February 25 academic holiday*, Philippine Star (Feb. 6, 2026), <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2026/02/06/2506207/catholic-schools-urged-declare-february-25-academic-holiday>

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

1 **Sec. 1. Short Title.** - This Act will be known as the “*EDSA People Power Day*
2 *Act.*”

3 **Sec. 2. EDSA People Power Day.** – February 25 of every year is hereby
4 declared the EDSA People Power Day to commemorate the peaceful 1986
5 EDSA People Power Revolution that ousted President Ferdinand E. Marcos,
6 Sr., toppled the authoritarian regime that he established, and restored
7 democracy in the Philippines. This day will be observed annually as a regular
8 holiday. All applicable laws and civil service rules on regular holidays shall be
9 observed on this day.

10 **Sec. 3. Lead Agency.** – The National Historical Commission of the Philippines,

1 in coordination with relevant government agencies, is designated as the lead
2 agency in organizing and coordinating activities for the EDSA People Power
3 Day to provide an opportunity for educational institutions, government
4 agencies, and civil society organizations to conduct programs that preserve
5 historical truth and promote democratic values and human rights awareness.

6 ***Sec. 4. Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation
7 of this Act shall be charged against the available appropriations of the National
8 Historical Commission of the Philippines under the Office of the President.
9 Thereafter, the amount necessary for its continuous implementation, including
10 any deficiency in the current year, shall be included in the annual General
11 Appropriations Act subject to existing budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules
12 and regulations.

13 ***Sec. 5. Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part of this Act is declared
14 invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected
15 thereby will remain in full force and effect.

16 ***Sec. 6. Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, regulations, and
17 other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
18 repealed or amended accordingly.

19 ***Sec. 7. Effectivity.*** – This Act takes effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
20 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

21 **Approved,**