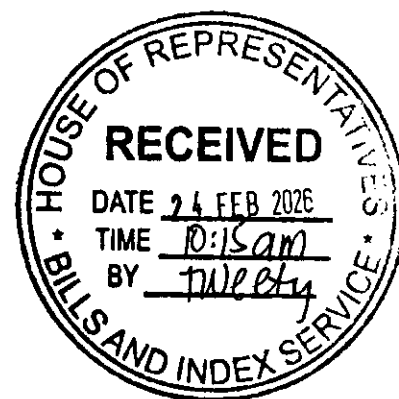


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8028**



Introduced by Representatives
LEILA M. DE LIMA
ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG
EDGAR R. ERICE
JAIME R. FRESNEDI
ALFONSO V. UMALI, JR.

AN ACT
DECLARING FEBRUARY 25 OF EVERY YEAR AS A REGULAR NATIONAL
PUBLIC NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN COMMEMORATION OF THE EDSA
PEOPLE POWER REVOLUTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Forty years ago, on February 25, 1986, the Filipino people triumphed in their decades-long struggle against the dictatorship of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Sr. After four (4) days of massive and nationwide protests -- with millions of Filipinos filling up the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA) in Metro Manila -- Marcos, Sr. and his family fled Malacañang. The February 1986 protests are known today as the "EDSA People Power Revolution", also known as the "EDSA Revolution" or "People Power Revolution."

That Revolution did not just lead to the ouster of the dictator Marcos, Sr, but it also marked the restoration of Philippine democracy, with the "EDSA promise" giving impetus to the framing and ratification of the 1987 Constitution, now the longest prevailing Constitution in Philippine history.

For decades since 1986, under various administrations, February 25 was celebrated as a special non-working holiday to commemorate the EDSA People Power Revolution. However, in 2024, under the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr., February 25 was removed from the list of regular and special holidays. Since 2024, February 25 has not been declared a non-working holiday, diminishing

the significance of the EDSA People Power Revolution amidst the rise of disinformation aimed at distorting its memory and discrediting its meaning.

By declaring February 25 of every year as a regular public non-working holiday, this bill seeks to institutionalize the commemoration of the Filipinos' victory against tyranny and oppression in one of the darkest eras in Philippine history. It also seeks to memorialize the heroism, sacrifices, and sufferings of the thousands of victims and survivors of Martial Law. Likewise, by institutionalizing the nationwide observance of EDSA People Power Revolution, the bill aims to uphold historical truth in an era of disinformation and historical revisionism, so that the Filipino people, as a nation, may move towards the future with a clear understanding of its past. Finally, by declaring February 25 of every year as a regular national public non-working holiday, the bill asserts the fitting degree of celebration of a nationally significant historical event from the potential ambivalence, indifference and even negation of any Philippine President.

A similar bill was first introduced by former Representative Edcel C. Lagman in the 19th Congress and refiled by Representative Cielo Krisel B. Lagman in the 20th Congress.

In upholding historical truth, and in promoting democracy, while honoring the heroism of the Filipino people during the Marial Law Period and the EDSA People Power Revolution, the early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



LEILA M. DE LIMA

Representative
Mamamayang Liberal (ML)



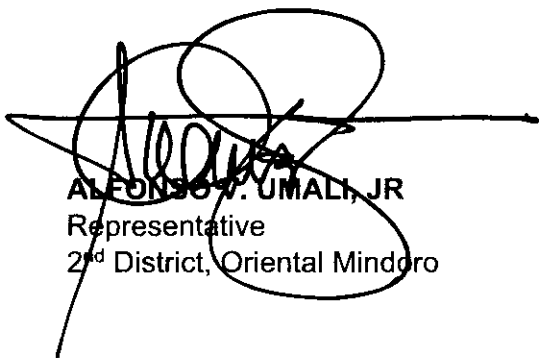
ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG
Representative
3rd District, Zamboanga del Norte



EDGAR R. ERICE
Representative
2nd District, Caloocan City



JAIME R. FRESNEDI
Representative
Lone District, Muntinlupa City



ALFONSO W. UMALI, JR
Representative
2nd District, Oriental Mindoro

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

1 SECTION. 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “EDSA People Power
2 Revolution Day Act.”
3

4 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the declared policy of the State to
5 commemorate and memorialize the EDSA People Power Revolution in February 1986.
6 Ousting a dictatorship and restoring democracy in the Philippines, the EDSA People
7 Power Revolution became an inspiration and a model to many transformative
8 movements across the world aimed at revitalization of democracy and promotion of
9 human rights and social justice.
10

11 SEC. 3. *National Holiday.* – February 25 of every year is hereby declared as a
12 regular national public non-working holiday in commemoration of the EDSA People
13 Power Revolution. It shall be observed through various activities and programs
14 retelling the stories of the People Power Revolution, paying tribute to the heroes and
15 martyrs of the Martial Law Period and the People Power Revolution, and celebrating
16 the values of Philippine democracy. Activities may include educational programs,

1 memorial exhibits, candle-lighting ceremonies, peaceful assemblies, religious
2 celebrations, concerts, and similar events.

3

4 SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any Section or provision of this Act is declared
5 invalid or unconstitutional, the Sections or provisions not affected thereby shall
6 continue to be in full force and effect.

7

8 SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees,
9 presidential proclamations, letters of instruction, rules and regulations, or parts thereof
10 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended
11 accordingly.

12

13 SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
14 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the
15 Philippines.

Approved,