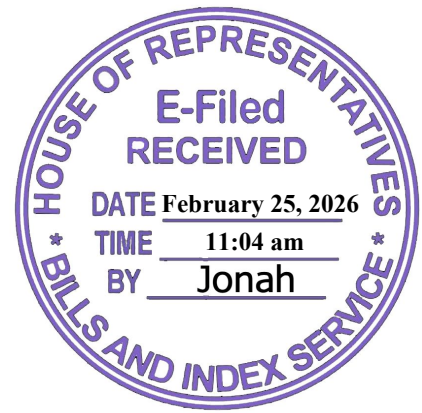


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8077



Introduced by the **Honorable ANIELA BIANCA N. TOLENTINO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Pawikan or sea turtles are endangered species that can be found in the Philippines. There are five species of sea turtles that inhabit the local waters of the Philippines – the Green, Hawksbill, Olive Ridley, Loggerhead, and Leatherback Turtles.

The Municipality of Naic, Cavite is a coastal town which is frequented by Pawikans. Every year during the second weekend in the month of February, the townsfolk of Naic celebrate the Naic Pawikan Festival.

The Naic Pawikan Festival has been celebrated every year for fifteen (15) years now. During the festival, various activities that promote the preservation of sea turtles are undertaken, including coastal clean-ups and fun-runs. The Naic Pawikan Festival is highlighted by the release of Pawikan hatchlings.

This representation believes that the Naic Pawikan Festival is a very significant event that needs to be recognized by the entire nation. The said festival showcases the determination of the Philippines in preserving the endangered sea turtles and that the country is one with the world in the effort to protect mother nature. As such, it is just proper to declare the Naic Pawikan Festival as an event of national significance and importance. The passage of the bill herein will also be a reinforcement of the State policy asserting that: *The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature* (Section 16, Article II, 1987 Constitution).

Approval of the bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'A' followed by some cursive letters.

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8077

Introduced by the Honorable ANIELA BIANCA D. TOLENTINO

"AN ACT DECLARING THE SECOND WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY OF EVERY YEAR AS SPECIAL HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAIC, CAVITE IN CELEBRATION OF THE PAWIKAN FESTIVAL"

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

Section 1. It is hereby declared that the Naic Pawikan Festival as an event of national significance and importance, relating to the preservation of the sea turtles in the Philippines.

Section 2. The Naic Pawikan Festival shall be celebrated every year during the Friday and Saturday of the second weekend of February. The Naic Pawikan Festival shall be special working holidays in the Municipality of Naic.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval, and all acts, rules or regulations, or laws inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED,