

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8317



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the 6th of June of every year as a special non-working holiday in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte, to be known as the "Araw ng Zamboanga del Norte".

The Province of Zamboanga del Norte was created by virtue of Republic Act No. 711, which was approved by former President Elpidio Quirino on June 6, 1952. The said law divided the Zamboanga Peninsula into two provinces, namely, Zamboanga del Norte and Zamboanga del Sur.

Zamboanga del Norte is composed of two cities- Dipolog City and Dapitan City, 25 municipalities, and 691 barangays. It is the largest province in Region IX, with a total land area of 7,301 square kilometers, and has a population of 1,047,455 based on the 2020 census. It is bordered on the north and west by the Sulu Sea, on the northeast by Misamis Occidental, and on the south by Zamboanga del Sur and Zamboanga Sibugay.

The declaration of June 6 of every year as a special non-working holiday in Zamboanga del Norte will enable the residents of the province to honor their roots and celebrate the rich history of the province. It will allow the residents to take part in the festive activities of the local government units, which in turn, will bring the government closer to the people.

It is also noteworthy that several proclamations have been made by the past Presidents of the Philippines, with the latest being Proclamation No. 1383 of 2022 by former President Rodrigo Duterte, declaring June 6 as a special non-working day in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG

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**AN ACT
DECLARING JUNE 6 OF EVERY YEAR
A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE
TO BE KNOWN AS "ARAW NG ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE",
IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

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

SECTION 1. June 6 of every year is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte, to be known as "Araw ng Zamboanga del Norte", in commemoration of its founding anniversary.

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

Approved,