



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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 9457



Introduced by Honorable Roger G. Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare June 15 of every year as a special non-working holiday in Bontoc, Southern Leyte, in recognition of its foundation anniversary on June 15, 1950, via Republic Act No. 522.

Granting this local holiday will allow residents to participate in commemorative activities that foster civic pride, cultural preservation, and community development. While local government units generally have authority to declare certain local holidays, a congressional act provides a more permanent and official recognition of this important historical milestone.

This measure is consistent with the State's policy of promoting local autonomy and cultural heritage.

Therefore, passage of this bill is hereby being earnestly sought.

ROGER G. MERCADO



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AN ACT
DECLARING JUNE 15 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BONTOC, PROVINCE OF
SOUTHERN LEYTE, TO COMMEMORATE ITS FOUNDATION
ANNIVERSARY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. — It is the policy of the State to recognize and promote the historical and cultural heritage of local government units by providing opportunities for their constituents to commemorate significant events in their history.

SECTION 2. Special Non-Working Holiday. — June 15 of every year is hereby declared as a special non-working holiday in the Municipality of Bontoc, Province of Southern Leyte, to be known as Bontoc Foundation Day. This shall commemorate the founding of the Municipality of Bontoc on June 15, 1950, pursuant to Republic Act No. 522.

SECTION 3. Observance. — The local government of the Municipality of Bontoc, through the Sangguniang Bayan, shall lead the annual commemoration of Bontoc Foundation Day through appropriate activities that promote local history, culture, unity, and development. All offices of the national and local government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, and private establishments in the Municipality of Bontoc shall observe this day as a non-working holiday.

SECTION 4. Effect on Labor and Employment. — For purposes of compensation, the rules on holiday pay under Article 94 of the Labor Code of the Philippines, as amended, and relevant Department of Labor and Employment issuances shall apply. Employees who are required to work on this day shall be entitled to the corresponding premium pay as provided by law.

SECTION 5. Implementing Rules. — The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the National Historical Commission of the Philippines, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,