

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
20TH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 10482



Introduced by: **REP. JOEL R. CHUA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

June 24, 1571 marks the formal establishment of the City of Manila by Miguel López de Legazpi, laying the foundation for what would become the capital of the Philippines and the center of the country's political, economic, cultural, and historical development.

For more than four centuries, Manila has stood at the forefront of the nation's history. It has witnessed the country's struggles, triumphs, and transformation. It serves as the seat of government and the home of countless institutions that have shaped the Filipino identity.

Like any great city, Manila's history is full of conflicts, one of both glory and adversity. Yet, through every trial, Manila has remained steadfast, continually rebuilding and moving forward. Celebrating its founding is not only an occasion to honor its past, but also an opportunity to reaffirm hope for its future and recognize the unwavering spirit of the Manileños.

Declaring June 24 of every year as a special non-working holiday in the City of Manila will provide residents the opportunity to commemorate the city's founding, participate in civic and cultural activities, and foster greater appreciation of Manila's enduring legacy and invaluable contributions to nation-building.

Ultimately, this measure recognizes the importance of preserving local history and strengthening the sense of identity and pride among Manileños, especially the younger generation.

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

JOEL R. CHUA

Representative, 3rd District, Manila

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AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 24 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF MANILA, TO BE KNOWN AS "MANILA DAY," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Manila Day Act."

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to recognize and preserve the historical and cultural heritage of local government units and to promote pride by commemorating their history.

June 24 marks the founding of the City of Manila under Spanish rule in 1571 through the establishment of its city government. As the nation's capital and one of the oldest chartered cities in Asia, Manila occupies a unique place in Philippine history, serving as the country's political, economic, cultural, and educational center for centuries. Declaring June 24 as a special non-working holiday in the City of Manila will provide its residents an opportunity to commemorate the city's rich history, honor its contributions to nation-building, and participate in activities that strengthen local identity and community solidarity.

Section 3. *Special Non-Working Holiday.* – June 24 of every year is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in the City of Manila, to be known as "Manila Day."

Section 4. *Implementing Agencies.* – The City Government of Manila, in coordination with the appropriate national government agencies, shall organize and promote activities and programs commemorating Manila Day, highlighting the city's historical, cultural, and civic significance.

Section 5. *Application to Labor.* – The appropriate labor rules and regulations pertaining to a special non-working holiday shall therefore apply.

Section 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, and administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 7. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.