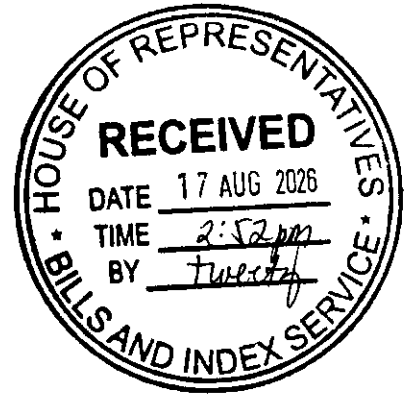




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Manila



Twentieth Congress
Second Regular Session
House Bill No. **10837**

Introduced by **HON. BAMBI B. EMANO**

**AN ACT DECLARING THE KABAYA FESTIVAL AS THE OFFICIAL
FESTIVAL OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF OPOL, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS
ORIENTAL**

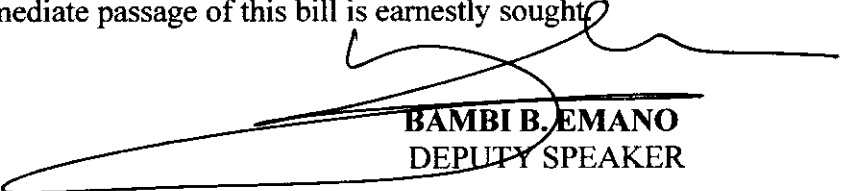
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Municipality of Opol, Province of Misamis Oriental, is known for its rich cultural heritage, deep religious devotion, and vibrant community spirit. Every first Sunday of September, the people of Opol celebrate the **Kabaya Festival** in honor of their patron saint, **Our Lady of Consolacion (Birhen sa Kalipay)**. The festival serves as an expression of gratitude, faith, and unity among Opoleños while showcasing the Municipality's unique traditions and cultural identity.

The term "**Kabaya**" is derived from a Higaonon word meaning **happiness** or **feeling wonderful**, aptly reflecting the joy and thanksgiving that characterize the celebration. Through religious activities, cultural performances, and community events, the festival promotes the preservation of local heritage, strengthens civic pride, and encourages tourism and economic activity in the Municipality.

This bill seeks to declare the Kabaya Festival as the official festival of the Municipality of Opol, Province of Misamis Oriental, and to declare the first Sunday of September of every year as a special non-working holiday in the Municipality in celebration thereof. The measure aims to institutionalize the annual observance of the festival, ensure its continued promotion and preservation, and recognize its significance as an enduring symbol of the Municipality's faith, culture, and identity.

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


BAMBI B. EMANO
DEPUTY SPEAKER



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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "**Kabaya Festival Act.**"

SECTION 2. The **Kabaya Festival** is hereby declared as the official festival of the **Municipality of Opol, Province of Misamis Oriental**. The festival is celebrated to honor the Municipality's patron saint, Our Lady of Consolacion (Birhen sa Kalipay).

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,