



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11270



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE USTADZ YUSOP T. ALANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare July 8 of every year as a special non-working holiday in the City of Isabela, Province of Basilan, repealing for the purpose Republic Act No. 12220, which currently designates the date as a special working holiday.

July 8 marks the *Fiesta de Isabela* in honor of the city's patroness, Santa Isabel de Portugal (Saint Elizabeth of Portugal), the historic milestone from which Isabela City directly derived its name. The annual observance features deeply embedded religious and civic traditions, including Novena Masses, the solemn Procession, the traditional Regatta, and the Bella Isabela pageant.

While Republic Act No. 12220 designates July 8 as a special working holiday known as *Fiesta Alegria de Isabela*, this restricts thousands of workers, students, and families from fully participating in their religious and ancestral traditions. Transitioning this observance to a permanent special non-working holiday ensures equal respect, recognition, and appropriate time for observance for the city's constituents.

This legislative proposal is filed pursuant to Resolution No. 26-7387 passed by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Isabela City.

For these reasons, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

USTADZ YUSOP T. ALANO



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AN ACT

**DECLARING JULY 8 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF ISABELA, PROVINCE OF BASILAN,
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12220,
ENTITLED: "AN ACT DECLARING JULY 8 OF EVERY YEAR A
SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF ISABELA,
PROVINCE OF BASILAN"**

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

SECTION 1. July 8 of every year is hereby declared a special non-working holiday in
the City of Isabela, Province of Basilan, to be known as "Fiesta Alegria de Isabela", in
recognition of its rich history, cultural diversity, and religious heritage, and to honor the
historical milestone from which the city derived its name.

SEC. 2. Republic Act No. 12220, entitled: "An Act Declaring July 8 of Every Year a
Special Working Holiday in the City of Isabela, Province of Basilan," and all laws, decrees,
executive orders, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or
modified accordingly.

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

Approved,