

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11297



Introduced by **HON. JOHN TRACY F. CAGAS**

AN ACT
DECLARING SEPTEMBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF DIGOS, DAVAO DEL SUR IN COMMEMORATION
OF ITS CITYHOOD ANNIVERSARY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The City of Digos is the largest urban center in the province of Davao del Sur. Its name according to a folklore, originated when a Spanish settler was having a conversation with a local. The settler asked the local, “What is the name of this place?”, but was instead understood as “Where are you going?”, to which the local answered “padigos”—which means he was about to take a bath in the river. This name stayed and transformed until it later turned to Digos.

In the past, Digos was a watercourse where the settlers of the foothills of Mt. Apo met for trade and fishing. According to historical data, the Digos River served as a convergence area of several ethnic groups, including the Tagawa Bagobos, Kaagan, B’laan, Manobo, Tagakaolo and Moros.

Formerly, Digos was a part of the municipality of Sta. Cruz. During the American and Japanese occupation, several abaca and coconut plantations were established which caused the influx of Cebuanos, Hiligaynons, Ilocanos, Tagalogs and even Americans and Japanese people.

In 1949, upon the initiative of Congressman Apolinario Cabigon, Digos became a regular municipality on July 19 by virtue of Presidential Executive Order No. 236 issued by the late President Elpidio R. Quirino. On July 14, 2000, former President Joseph Estrada signed into law the R.A. No. 8798, formally declaring its cityhood and its plebiscite was held on September 8, 2000.

Since then, the City of Digos has been continuously growing and emerging as a premiere city in the Davao Region.

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


ATTY. JOHN TRACY F. CAGAS

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

SECTION 1. September 8 of every year shall is hereby declared a special nonworking holiday in the City of Digos, in commemoration of its cityhood anniversary.

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

Approved,