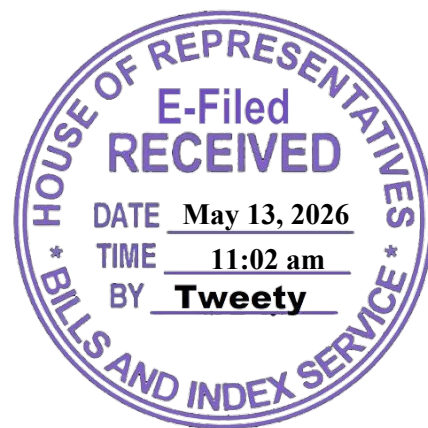




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 292

Submitted by the Committee on Local Government on May 13, 2026

Re: House Bill No. 2953

Recommending its approval with amendments

Sponsors: Representatives Florencio T. Miraflores and Janice Degamo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Local Government to which was referred **House Bill No. 2953**, introduced by Representative Janice Degamo, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 3 OF EVERY YEAR ‘LEON KILAT DAY’ A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BACONG, NEGROS ORIENTAL”

has considered the same and recommends its approval with the following amendments:

1. Delete the Section titles;
2. On page 1, line 1, delete “of 2025” after “Leon Kilat Day Act”;
3. On the same page, line 7, delete “April 3” and replace it with “July 27”;
4. On the same page, line 8, insert “non-” before “working” so that it shall read “non-working”;
5. On the same page, line 9, insert “to honor” after the conjunction “and”;
6. On the same page, lines 10 to 12, delete the entire second sentence of Section 3;
7. On the same page, lines 14 to 16, delete the entire Section 4;

8. On page 2, line 1, insert a new Section 4 to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF BACONG SHALL ENSURE THE MEANINGFUL OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAY THROUGH APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, IN COORDINATION WITH RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND STAKEHOLDERS, TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF ITS HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE.”

9. On the same page, line 13, delete the word “complete”; and

10. Lastly, amend the title of the bill to read as follows:

“AN ACT DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BACONG, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL, TO BE KNOWN AS ‘LEON KILAT DAY’”

with Representatives Janice Degamo and Florencio T. Miraflores as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,


FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES
Chairperson
Committee on Local Government

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
House of Representatives
Quezon City

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2953



INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE JANICE V. DEGAMO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The story of the Philippine Revolution is a tapestry of brave acts by men and women across the archipelago who stood up to colonial oppression. While the contributions of many revolutionaries have been celebrated over the years, the nation has yet to formally and equally recognize the regional heroes who played vital roles in the collective struggle for independence.

Pantaleon Villegas, more widely known as *Leon Kilat*, was born in Bacong, Negros Oriental, and became a central figure in the revolutionary resistance in the Visayas. On April 3, 1898, he led the uprising in Cebu City against Spanish colonial forces, an act of valor that stirred revolutionary fervor throughout Central Visayas. His leadership, sacrifice, and martyrdom continue to inspire generations, especially among Visayans who regard him as a symbol of courage and defiance.

This bill seeks to declare April 3 as Leon Kilat Day, a special working holiday in the Municipality of Bacong, Negros Oriental.

In doing so, this measure ensures that the heroism of Visayans like Leon Kilat are meaningfully preserved and passed on to future generations. It also affirms the importance of inclusive historical memory in the shaping of national identity.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


JANICE V. DEGAMO
Representative, 3rd District of Negros Oriental

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2953

Introduced by **HONORABLE JANICE V. DEGAMO**

AN ACT
DECLARING APRIL 3 OF EVERY YEAR “LEON KILAT DAY” A SPECIAL
WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BACONG, NEGROS
ORIENTAL

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

Section 1. Title. This Act shall be known as the “Leon Kilat Day Act of 2025.”

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to recognize, preserve, and promote the historical and cultural contributions of regional revolutionary figures who played a vital role in the Philippine struggle for independence.

Section 3. Commemoration of Leon Kilat Day. April 3 of every year is hereby declared Leon Kilat Day, a special working holiday in the Municipality of Bacong, Negros Oriental, to commemorate his role in the Philippine Revolution and his enduring legacy in Visayan history. The Local Government Unit of Bacong in collaboration with the Department of Education is hereby directed to hold a yearly activity within the municipality every April 3 in recognition of Leon Kilat’s accomplishments.

Section 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NHCP, in coordination the NCCA shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations.

Section 5. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2953

Introduced by **Representatives Janice Degamo and Florencio T. Miraflores**

**[AN ACT
DECLARING APRIL 3 OF EVERY YEAR “LEON KILAT DAY” A SPECIAL
WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BACONG, NEGROS
ORIENTAL]**

**AN ACT
DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BACONG, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL, TO
BE KNOWN AS “LEON KILAT DAY”**

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

1 **SECTION 1. [Title. –]** This Act shall be known as the “Leon Kilat Day Act [of 2025]”.

2
3 **SEC. 2. [Declaration of Policy. –]** It is the policy of the State to recognize, preserve,
4 and promote the historical and cultural contributions of regional revolutionary figures who
5 played a vital role in the Philippine struggle for independence.
6

7 **SEC. 3. [Commemoration of Leon Kilat Day. –]** [April 3] **JULY 27** of every year is
8 hereby declared Leon Kilat Day, a special **NON**-working holiday in the Municipality of
9 Bacong, Negros Oriental, to commemorate his role in the Philippine Revolution and **TO**
10 **HONOR** his enduring legacy in Visayan history. [The local government unit of Bacong, in
11 collaboration with the Department of Education, is hereby directed to hold a yearly activity
12 within the municipality every April 3 in recognition of Leon Kilat’s accomplishments.]
13

14 **[SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. –** Within ninety (90) days from the
15 effectivity of this Act, the NHCP, in coordination the NCCA shall promulgate the necessary
16 implementing rules and regulations.]
17

1 **SEC. 4. THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF BACONG SHALL ENSURE**
2 **THE MEANINGFUL OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAY THROUGH**
3 **APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, IN COORDINATION WITH**
4 **RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND STAKEHOLDERS, TO PROMOTE**
5 **AWARENESS OF ITS HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE.**
6

7 **SEC. 5. [*Separability Clause.* –]** If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or
8 invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.
9

10 **SEC. 6. [*Repealing Clause.* –]** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and
11 rules inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
12

13 **SEC. 7. [*Effectivity.* –]** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its [complete]
14 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
15

Approved,