



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 301

Submitted by the Committee on Local Government on May 18, 2026

Re: House Bill No. 2749

Recommending its approval with amendments

Sponsors: Representatives Florencio T. Miraflores and Julius Cesar "Jay" V. Vergara

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Local Government to which was referred **House Bill No. 2749**, introduced by Representative Julius Cesar "Jay" V. Vergara, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 5 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF PALAYAN, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, TO COMMEMORATE THE FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF PALAYAN”

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

1. On line 1, delete phrase “to be known as ‘Araw ng Palayan’” after the word “year”;
2. On line 3, delete the article “the” and replace it with “its”;
3. On the same line, after “founding anniversary”, delete “of the City of Palayan” and insert a comma and the phrase “to be known as ‘Araw ng Palayan’, to honor its establishment and celebrate its progress and achievements”;
4. Insert a new Section 2 to read as follows:

“SEC. 2. THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF PALAYAN 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.”

5. On line 13, delete the section title of Section 2 and renumber it to Section 3; and

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

“AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 5 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF PALAYAN, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, TO COMMEMORATE THE FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF PALAYAN”

with Representatives Julius Cesar "Jay" V. Vergara 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

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House Bill No. **2749**



Introduced by Representative Julius Cesar "Jay" V. Vergara

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Palayan City's recorded existence began in 1965. Prior to the birth of the city, a portion of the land in the Municipality of Bongabon was categorized as a government stock farm, being a government facility for the development of animals supervised by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI).

From being a government stock farm, it was transformed on 19 June 1965 into a city and the new capital of Nueva Ecija through the enactment of Republic Act (RA) No. 4475. By virtue of Proclamation No. 495 signed by then President Diosdado Macapagal, the date of the formal organization of the government of the City of Palayan was proclaimed on 05 December 1965.

The city is now transforming into a vibrant capital of Nueva Ecija. More than fifty years back since 1965, a lot of changes and developments have transpired. With the city's vision to become an investment-friendly, agro-industrial and agro-tourism hub anchored on the opening of Palayan City Business Hub and other commercial establishments, the city will soon become the new center of business industries in the province. What started as a portion of neighboring city and municipalities such as Cabanatuan City, Municipalities of Bongabon, Sta. Rosa, Laur, and Gen. Natividad, Palayan City continuously transforms into a modern, sustainable and resilient city that espouses the balanced management of socio-economic development and environment to ensure equitable growth and promote the welfare of all Palayanos. These milestones are commemorated during the yearly celebration of its foundation anniversary.

In line with the city's week-long founding anniversary celebration which is held every December 1 to 5, Agro Trade Fair is one of the highlights where processed Calamansi Juice tops the farm products being displayed for sale and promotion or advertisement. Calamansi (Philippine Lime) is the city's accredited One Town One Product (OTOP). Aside from the trade fair, there are numerous activities during the week-long celebration which include the following: Celebration of *Larong Pinoy*, *Gabay Pagmamahal sa mga Nakakatanda*, Youth Congress, LGBTQ Congress, Indigenous

People Day/Week, Motor Cross Challenge, Ginoo at Binibining Palayan, Street Dancing/Drum and Lyre Competition, Karera ng Kalabaw and Cook Fest, Zumba Festival, and Araw ng Barangay.

As a form of recognition, a celebration of its founding anniversary is necessary. This bill therefore seeks to declare every December 5 of the year as a special non-working holiday in the City of Palayan so as to give time to its constituents to engage in and enjoy the activities prepared by the city government.

Given the foregoing, this Bill is respectfully submitted for immediate consideration and approval.



JULIUS CESAR "JAY" V. VERGARA
Third District of Nueva Ecija

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2749**

Introduced by Representative Julius Cesar "Jay" V. Vergara

1 **AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 5 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-**
2 **WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF PALAYAN, PROVINCE OF NUEVA**
3 **ECIJA, TO COMMEMORATE THE FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY OF THE**
4 **CITY OF PALAYAN**

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
7 *Congress assembled:*

8
9 **Section 1.** December 5 of every year, to be known as "Araw ng Palayan", is
10 hereby declared as a special non-working holiday in the City of Palayan, Province of
11 Nueva Ecija, to commemorate the Foundation Anniversary of the City of Palayan.

12
13 **Section 2. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
14 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

15
16 *Approved,*