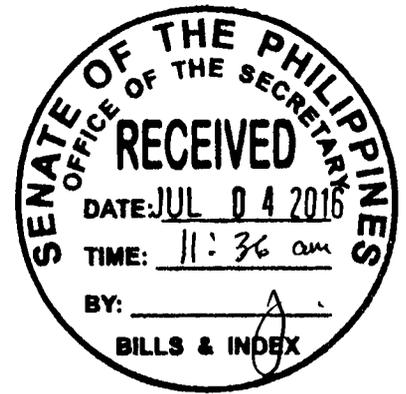


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

Senate Bill No. 304

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

AN ACT
DECLARING THE TWENTY SEVENTH DAY OF JULY OF EVERY YEAR A
SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN RECOGNITION OF THE
FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO (INC),
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9645
AND SECTION 26, CHAPTER 7 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987 AS
AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Iglesia Ni Cristo, a nontrinitian, independent and religious organization founded by Ka Felix Manalo on July 27, 1914 with its first church located in Punta, Manila's Santa Ana district after its first converts were baptized in the nearby Pasig River. What started with twelve followers is now a Church that has grown to more than two million followers in the Philippines and with more than 3,000 congregations called locales, of which more than 300 locales are scattered in around seventy countries worldwide. By some accounts, it is considered the second largest formal religion in the country after Catholicism.

The Iglesia Ni Cristo, being founded in the Philippines by a Filipino, is recognized as a credible and respected religious organization, not only in the country but also in the whole world. Thus, it has brought honor and recognition to the country as a bastion of evangelization in this part of the world.

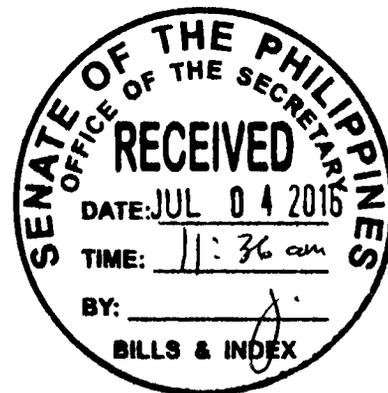
In line with the foregoing, the Congress enacted Republic Act No. 9625 to commemorate the Founding anniversary of the Iglesia Ni Cristo in recognition of its exemplary feat of leading its members towards spiritual enlightenment and good citizenry. Undoubtedly, the Iglesia Ni Cristo has spread the Good News of our Lord in the Philippines and the rest of the world, and continues to do so with zeal and faithfulness as exemplified by its founder, Ka Felix Manalo.

Thus, it is but fitting to recognize this triumph of evangelization of Iglesia Ni Cristo by celebrating its founding anniversary on July 27 of every year as a special nonworking holiday throughout the country, thereby amending RA No. 9625.

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


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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AMENDED

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

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9625 is hereby amended as follows:
- 2 *Section 3. National Holiday. - July 27 of every year is hereby*
3 *declared as a **SPECIAL NATIONAL NON-WORKING***
4 ***HOLIDAY** in commemoration of the founding anniversary of*
5 *the Iglesia ni Cristo in the Philippines.*
- 6 **SECTION 2.** Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
7 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation
8 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed,
9 modified or amended accordingly.
- 10 **SECTION 3.** Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
11 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
- 12 Approved,