AN ACT DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH

This bill seeks to institutionalize the annual celebration of cooperative movement by declaring the month of October of every year as National Cooperative Month.

Cooperatives have always been important as instruments of equity, social justice and economic development. There are more than 20,000 cooperatives registered in the Cooperative Development Authority with approximately 11 million individual members.

Cooperatives have empowered millions of Filipinos and are significant in our country’s local economic development. These cooperatives produced billions of pesos worth of goods and services and have generated thousands of jobs.

Given the importance of cooperatives, it is but right to institutionalize the National Cooperative month to celebrate their history, development, values and contributions.

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

LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.
AN ACT DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH

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

Sec. 1. Designation – The month of October of every year is hereby declared as the National Cooperative Month.

Sec. 2. Goals and Aspirations. – The National Cooperative Month aims to:

a. Raise public awareness on the invaluable contributions of the cooperative in sustainable development, poverty reduction, employment generation, and social integration;

b. Highlight the strengths of the cooperative business model as an alternative means of doing business and furthering socio-economic development;

c. Further strengthen the cooperative movement by increasing public awareness about cooperatives and their contributions to advance national development, community empowerment, and quality of life of families and individuals; and

d. Institutionalize annual celebration of the cooperative and its contribution.

Towards this end, the State shall introduce pro-active measures to raise the awareness of the public, especially the youth, on climate change and address the impact of global warming.

Sec. 3. Theme. – The Cooperative Development Authority, through its Chairperson and Board of Directors, in partnership with the National Cooperative Development Council shall determine the theme of the annual celebration.

Sec. 4. Implementation Structure. – The Chairperson of the Cooperative Development Authority, as the lead, in coordination with cooperative development
councils, national and local federations and union of cooperatives, and other government agencies of the government, is mandated to conduct activities and programs that promote the principles and values of cooperatives and encourage cooperative movement.

Sec. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Chairperson of the Cooperative Development Authority shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 6. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,