

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 3572



Introduced by
ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO,
GABRIELA Women's Party Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS,
and **KABATAAN Party-List Rep. RAOUL DANNIEL A. MANUEL**

AN ACT
DECLARING JULY 7 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY
TO COMMEMORATE THE FOUNDING OF THE KATIPUNAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Most Filipinos know about the *Katipunan* and its founder, Andres Bonifacio, and the very important roles of each in the fight against the brutal Spanish colonial rule and the emergence and development of the First Philippine Republic.

Yet, very few of us know the actual date when Bonifacio and several other patriotic "*indios*" came together to formally organize the *Kataastaasang Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan*, and sealed their membership in the secret revolutionary society by signing the pact with their own blood, vowing to end the more than three hundred years of Spanish domination over the islands.

Sadly, that historic day, which led to the dawning of the Filipino nation, has long dimmed in the national consciousness. Thus, there is a need to commemorate the night of July 7, 1892, when Bonifacio, Valentin Diaz, Deodato Arellano, Teodoro Plata, Ladislao Diwa, and their other compatriots secretly met in a house along 72 Azcarraga Street (now Claro M. Recto Street) near Candelaria Street (now Elcano Street) in Tondo, Manila.

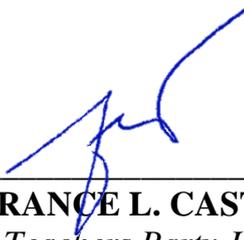
Historian Carmen Guerrero Nakpil aptly described that event as "the spark that lit the prairie fire." It was then when the grievances of the "sacristans, forced laborers, farmers, intrepid widows, native priests, galleon builders, and port-sergeants" and the aspirations of "Gomburza, the Propaganda Movement, the secret societies, the poets,

artists, lawyers, polemicists, and the novels of Rizal” were finally crystallized into a revolutionary call for a free and sovereign Filipino nation. It was the *Katipunan* which gave the first concrete embodiment of the Filipino nation, 130 years ago.

The ardent patriotism, the selflessness, and the dedicated pursuit of liberty, equality, and fraternity in a free and democratic society of the founders of the *Katipunan* must be instilled in the Filipinos of today.

This Bill was first filed during the 14th Congress by Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo as House Bill 5841. It was then refiled during the 15th to 18th Congresses as HB 1631, 1124, 5455 and 2169, respectively.

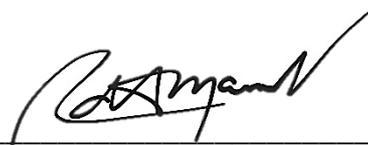
For these reasons, the expeditious approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.



Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Party-List



Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS
GABRIELA Women's Party



Rep. RAOUL DANNIEL A. MANUEL
KABATAAN Party-List

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “*Katipunan Day Act.*”

SEC. 2. July 7 of every year shall be declared a special working holiday to commemorate the founding of the *Kataastaasang Katipunan ng Mga Anak ng Bayan (KKK or Katipunan)* by Filipino patriots led by Andres Bonifacio as a secret society that fought for the independence of the then-emerging Filipino nation from the clutches of Spanish colonial rule.

SEC. 3. To pay homage and respect to the founders of the *Katipunan* and to rededicate the Filipino nation to the ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity, all public and private offices and facilities are hereby mandated to conduct a flag-raising ceremony where the following *Katipunan* tunes shall be played: “*Marangal na Dalit ng Katagalugan,*” “*Alerta Katipunan,*” and “*Jocelynang Baliuag.*”

SEC. 4. To further ensure the meaningful observance of the holiday, the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall ensure that appropriate activities are held in schools at all levels to commemorate Katipunan Day, as well as its founders and founding ideals. Such activities shall include the singing of “*Marangal na Dalit ng Katagalugan,*” “*Alerta Katipunan,*” and “*Jocelynang Baliuag,*” at least three days before the said holiday.

SEC. 5. The National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) shall be responsible for providing the DepEd, CHED, and the general public with the necessary information to ensure a meaningful commemoration of Katipunan Day.

SEC. 6. Funds necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be drawn from the yearly appropriations of the agencies concerned.

SEC. 7. Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the NHCP shall, in consultation with the DepEd and CHED, formulate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,