



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9182

BY REPRESENTATIVES GARBIN, SY-ALVARADO, LARA, BORDADO, SALO, SANGCOPAN, GUICO, JIMENEZ, ABANTE, PANCHO, DY (I.P.), CASTRO (F.L.), BARBERS, ESCUDERO, ELAGO SAVELLANO, CO (E.), FARIÑAS (R.C.), DALIPE AND NIETO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 910

**AN ACT
DECLARING AUGUST 30 OF EVERY YEAR AS "NATIONAL PRESS FREEDOM DAY"**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** August 30 of every year is hereby declared as "National Press Freedom Day"
2 in honor of Marcelo H. Del Pilar, the father of Philippine Journalism, who was born on August 30,
3 1850 and wrote under the pen name "Plaridel."

4 **SEC 2.** To ensure the meaningful observance and celebration of National Press Freedom
5 Day, all government agencies and instrumentalities, the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine
6 National Police, government-owned and controlled corporations, local government units, as well as
7 the private sector shall afford sufficient time and opportunity for their employees to engage and
8 participate in any related activity to be conducted in the premises of their respective offices or
9 establishments.

10 **SEC. 3.** The Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, and Technical
11 Education and Skills Development Authority in consultation with the Office of the President,
12 government, and private media organizations shall lead public and private schools at all levels in
13 organizing consciousness-raising activities on the importance of the press, their rights and social
14 responsibilities, and the elimination of all forms of violence against the press.

15 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette*
16 or in a newspaper of general circulation.

17 **Approved,**