

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



'22 NOV 23 P 6 :23

SENATE

S. No. 1546

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NATIONAL NON-WORKING
HOLIDAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9645,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMMEMORATION OF THE FOUNDING
ANNIVERSARY OF IGLESIA NI CRISTO"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On July 27, 1914, Brother Felix Y. Manalo, serving as its first Executive Minister, registered the Iglesia ni Cristo. More than a century after it was founded, the 2015 Philippine Census reported that there are around 2.664 million Iglesia ni Cristo Filipinos.

As one of the biggest religious organizations in the country, it is proper to recognize their founding anniversary as a special national non-working holiday, given that a number of our regular holidays are religious in nature.

Republic Act No. 9645, or the "*Commemoration of the Founding Anniversary of Iglesia ni Cristo Act*", was enacted to recognize the exemplary feat of Iglesia ni Cristo in leading its members towards spiritual enlightenment and good citizenry. More than a decade after, we seek to further bolster this recognition by seeking to declare July 27 of every year as a special national non-working holiday in the Philippines.

In view of the significant contribution of the Iglesia ni Cristo to the Filipino nation, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippine Congress Assembled:

1 Section 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9645 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 "Sec. 3. National Holidays – July 27 of every year is hereby declared
4 as a special national [~~working~~] **NON-WORKING** holiday in
5 commemoration of the founding anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo in
6 the Philippines."
7

8 Sec. 2. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
9 publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the
10 Philippines.

Approved,