

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



23 JAN 30 AM 11:33

SENATE

S. No. 1797

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

**AN ACT
DECLARING NOVEMBER 12 OF EVERY YEAR A REGULAR NON-WORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF VALENZUELA, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS
FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Valenzuela's history dates back to pre-colonial era. Centuries prior the urbanization of Valenzeula, the same was located in an agricultural and fishing town, and part of a large land area that included parts of Quezon City, Novaliches, and Obando, Bulacan. Early inhabitants thereof considered it as a separate island or "pulo", which became the area's namesake until it was renamed as "Polo".

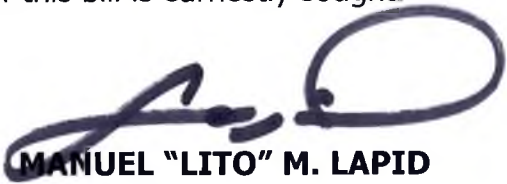
For a long time, Polo's early settlers resisted Spanish rule by taking part in a series of battles against the Spanish forces of Miguel Lopez de Legazpi. After the Spaniards captured Manila and its neighboring towns, the vast sitio was then incorporated into the township of Catangalan (now Meycauayan) in the Bulacan alcaldia. Three centuries later, when Andres Bonifacio established the Katipunan, the local inteligencia and political leaders of Polo, including Dr. Pio Valenzuela, supported the Katipunan revolution.

After the Manila archdiocese was established on August 14, 1595, the friars who had set up churches in Catangalan called for further division of the vast town, to enhance efforts to convert locals into the Catholic faith. On November 12, 1623,

Spanish Governor-General Alonso Fajardo de Entenza ordered the separation of sitio Polo from Catangalan and its establishment as an independent town.

Valenzuela used to celebrate its foundation every November 7, until in 2010, when the city council passed a resolution designating November 12 as its official date of foundation. With this, this bill seeks to declare the 12th of November every year as a regular holiday in Valenzuela City to commemorate its founding anniversary to be able to be given full opportunity to participate in the ceremonies prepared by the local government and to be able to celebrate the city's accomplishments and progress over the years.

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



MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

Senator

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4 **FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY**

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

5 SECTION 1. *Title.* — This Act shall be known as the "Araw ng Valenzuela".

6 SECTION 2. *Araw ng Valenzuela.* — In recognition of its importance to our
7 nation's history and the city's contribution to nation building and national
8 development, the twelfth (12th) day of November of every year is hereby declared a
9 regular non-working holiday in the City of Valenzuela to be known as the "Araw ng
10 Valenzuela".

11 SECTION 3. *Inter-agency and Multi-sectoral Effort.* — The Local Government
12 of the City of Valenzuela shall serve as the lead agency in the preparation and
13 implementation of the annual program of activities for the observance of the annual
14 Araw ng Valenzuela.

15 To ensure the meaningful observance and celebration of this day, the local
16 counterparts of national government agencies, public schools, state universities and
17 colleges, and employers in the private sector, are encouraged to allow their respective
18 personnel and constituents to participate in any related activity to be held within the
19 premises of their respective offices or establishments.

1 *SECTION 4. Separability Clause.* — In the event that any part, section or
2 provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court,
3 the remaining provisions thereby shall remain valid and in full force and effect as if
4 the sections or provisions so annulled or voided had never been incorporated herein.

5 *SECTION 5. Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances,
6 rules and regulations, or parts thereof not consistent with the provisions of this Act
7 are hereby repealed or modified and/or superseded as case may be by this Act
8 accordingly.

9 *SECTION 6. Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
10 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
11 circulation, whichever comes earlier.

12 *Approved,*