

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

23 MAY -9 P4:15

SENATE
S. No. 2168

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

AN ACT
TO DESIGNATE THE FOURTH DAY OF MAY OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL
WORKING HOLIDAY TO BE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS'
DAY, MANDATING THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION CONDUCT EVENTS
DURING ITS OBSERVANCE, TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Firefighters play a critical role in keeping our communities safe. They put themselves in harm's way to protect our lives and property in the event of a fire, as well as responding to other emergency situations such as medical emergencies, natural disasters, and hazardous materials incidents.

A national holiday celebrating firefighters can help raise awareness of the important work they do and honor their bravery and dedication to public service. It can also serve as a way to recognize the sacrifices and risks that firefighters and their families make on a daily basis.

Additionally, a holiday for firefighters can provide an opportunity for communities to come together and show their support for their local fire departments. It can also serve to encourage recruitment and retention of firefighters, as well as promoting fire safety and prevention education.

Dahil kinikilala natin ang ambag ng ating mga bumbero sa pambansang kaunlaran, ngayon, higit kailanman, na dapat ipakita ng pamahalaan ang kanyang pagpapahalaga sa kanila sa pamamagitan ng pagtatalaga ng isang araw upang kilalanin at isulong ang kanilang mga Karapatan. Ito ay ating paraan upang ipakita ang ating pasasalamat sa kanilang walang

sawang pagsisikap at sa pagprotekta sa ating mga komunidad at pagpapanatili sa ating kaligtasan.

This bill seeks to recognize the invaluable contribution of our firefighters in nation building. It is a response to the global call to declare the 4th of May as International Firefighters' Day to honor the sacrifices that firefighters make to ensure that our communities and environment are as safe as possible.

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


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

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4 **DAY, MANDATING THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION CONDUCT EVENTS**
5 **DURING ITS OBSERVANCE, TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR**
6 **OTHER PURPOSES**

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

7 **SECTION 1. Title.** — This Act shall be known as the "National Firefighters' Day
8 Act".

9 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** — It is hereby declared to be the policy of
10 the State to undertake initiatives that will recognize the vital role of firefighters in
11 protecting the people's lives and property in the event of a fire, as well as responding
12 to other situations such as medical emergencies, natural disasters, and hazardous
13 materials incidents to protect and serve the communities and ensuring safety of all.

14 The State shall honor and remember our fallen firefighters, assist their families
15 in rebuilding their lives, and prevent firefighter injuries and deaths.

16 **SECTION 3. National Firefighters' Day.** — In recognition of the observance of
17 International Firefighters' Day, the fourth (4th) day of May of every year is hereby
18 declared a special working holiday to be known as the National Firefighters' Day.

1 **SECTION 4. *Inter-agency and Multi-sectoral Effort.*** — The Department of
2 Interior and Local Government and the Bureau of Fire Protection shall serve as the
3 lead agencies in the preparation and implementation of the annual program of
4 activities for the observance of the National Firefighters' Day.

5 To ensure the meaningful observance and celebration of this day, the local
6 government units and the private sector, are encouraged to allow their respective
7 personnel to participate in any related activity to be held within the premises of their
8 respective offices or establishments.

9 **SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** — The amount necessary to implement the
10 provision of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

11 **SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.*** — In the event that any part, section or
12 provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court,
13 the remaining provisions thereby shall remain valid and in full force and effect as if
14 the sections or provisions so annulled or voided had never been incorporated herein.

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

19 **SECTION 8. *Effectivity.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
21 circulation, whichever comes earlier.

22 *Approved,*