

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2699

Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On January 25, 2015, forty-four members of the Special Action Force (SAF) of the Philippine National Police (PNP) laid down their lives in the name of peace and justice. They were killed in action in Mamasapano, Maguindanao in pursuit of the international terrorist Zulkifli Bin Hir, alias Marwan. They were waylaid while in performance of their sworn duty to uphold peace and order and while enforcing the law. Until their last breath, they stood their ground and never backed down in the face of berserk animosity from lawless elements of the society. Once they were pinned down and trapped by the many anarchic and vicious enemies in the open cornfield in every direction, the SAF men courageously fought them off with all their might and glory until one by one, their very lives escaped them as the ferocious enemies would not let up until every single one of them fell.

To honor these brave men who laid down their lives for their country, their valor should be remembered and celebrated by declaring every January 25 of every year a special non-working holiday. All Filipinos and their sons and daughters should know of the Fallen 44's sacrifice and bravery and rekindle their patriotism and love for peace and the rejection of savage aggression.

Hence, the immediate approval of this bill is most earnestly prayed for.

  
WINNIE CASTELO

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RECEIVED

DATE: 09 AUG 2016

TIME: 11:30 am

BY: [Signature]

REGISTRATION UNIT  
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2699**

---

introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Casteio

---

**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING JANUARY 25 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN**  
**HONOR OF THE FALLEN 44**

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

SECTION 1. January 25 of every year is hereby declared as a special non-working holiday in the entire country to honor *The Fallen 44*.

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,