

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2221

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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Introduced by **HONORABLE ZAJID G. MANGUDADATU**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

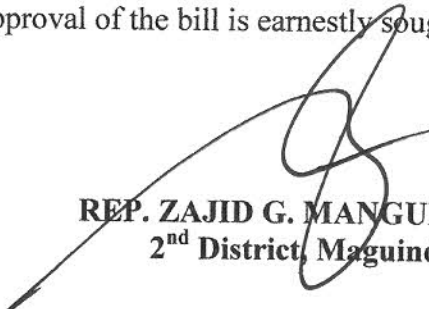
Justice remains elusive for the victims in the Maguindanao massacre six years after the gruesome murder of 58 people, including 32 media practitioners. On that ill-fated day of November 23, 2009, the victims were stopped by more than a hundred men in Ampatuan town. All were shot and buried. Others were raped before they were killed. The body of one reporter was never found.

More than 150 witnesses and thousands of pages of documentary evidence were presented, but the special court handling the case has yet to issue a single verdict against any of the accused charged with 58 counts of murder.

The Maguindanao Massacre left a scar that will forever be remembered not only by the Maguindanaoans but also by the entire Philippine nation. The shocking event should not be allowed to happen again. The Author desires that November 23 of every year be declared as a holiday in the province of Maguindanao to remember the lives that were brutally taken on the same date in 2009. Declaring November 23 as a holiday will also act as a constant reminder that Maguindanao and the entire Filipino nation should not allow such a deplorable act to ever happen again.

The horrific event should not be allowed to happen again. The Author desires to make November 23 of every year as holiday in the province of Maguindanao to remember the lives that were taken on the said date in 2009. Declaring November 23 as a holiday will also act as a reminder that Maguindanao and the entire Filipino nation should not allow such a deplorable act to ever happen again.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of the bill is earnestly sought.


REP. ZAJID G. MANGUDADATU
2nd District, Maguindanao

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**AN ACT DECLARING NOVEMBER 23 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL
NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF MAGUINDANAO**

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

SECTION 1. November 23 of every year is hereby declared as a day in commemoration of the 2009 Maguindanao Massacre.

SECTION 2. November 23 is hereby declared as a special non-working holiday in the entire Province of Maguindanao. All work and classes on November 23 of each year shall be suspended.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,