

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6179



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Introduced by: Congressman BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Since the beginning of time, immorality; unrighteousness; hatred; lack of discipline; riotous living; covetousness; corruption; disrespect to law, authority and parents; lust for money, identity, power and influence; poverty, among others, have engulfed the world, wrecking families, destroying relationships, sowing disorder, and even bringing down leaders and governments. Our beloved country is not exempt of these evils. The best and long-time solution to these problems and evils of society and government is to teach ourselves and our people about God and the principles and standards of living, and governance He declared in his Word – the BIBLE. We, as a sovereign people recognize this because we declared in the Preamble of our Constitution that we are imploring the aid of **Almighty God** in order to build a just and humane society and establish a government that shall embody our ideals and aspirations, and promote the common good. We also declared in the same Instrument that “the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, **moral, spiritual**, intellectual, and social **well-being**” (Sec. 13, Art. II, Constitution); “All educational institutions shall teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen **ethical and spiritual values**, develop **moral character and personal discipline** (Secs. 3[1] and [2], Art. XIV, Constitution).

These Constitutional declarations, however, can be best realized and given true meaning with the concerted effort of all Bible-believers to devote at last one (1) day every year wholly to proclaim the teachings, and the standards and principles set by the Lord Jesus Christ whom God, because of his divine love, sent to the world, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16, KJV).

The BAPTISTS in our country are committed to proclaim throughout our nation and our people that knowing, understanding and practicing Biblical principles and standards are the ingredients of a healthy nation and people. They truly believe that all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction righteousness [2 Timothy 3:16, KJV]. And for the past one hundred nineteen (119) years that they have been in our country, the BAPTIST people have adhered to, practiced, and proclaimed, the Word of God, hence, they believe that they should be given a special and specific date to be devoted exclusively in proclaiming, teaching, reminding and sharing to our people throughout the nation the grace and mercies of God, His goodness and faithfulness, and the indispensability of biblical principles and standards in our life as a people and as a nation, and in governance as well. In recognition of this, and in remembrance of John the BAPTIST who personally baptized the Lord Jesus Christ in the river Jordan (\_\_\_\_), it is just fitting that one (1) day in the calendar, particularly the 16<sup>th</sup> day of the month of January, be declared as a special working holiday to be known as NATIONAL BAPTIST DAY.

The immediate passage of this Bill is, therefore, earnestly pleaded.



BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.



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**AN ACT**

MAKING THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY A SPECIAL WORKING  
HOLIDAY TO BE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL BAPTIST DAY

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the NATIONAL  
BAPTIST DAY.

SEC. 2. The 16<sup>th</sup> day of the month of January is hereby declared a  
Special working Holiday to be known as NATIONAL BAPTIST DAY.

SEC. 3. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and  
regulations, and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby  
repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15)  
days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general  
circulation.

Approved,