

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

3765
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



Introduced by Rep. Anna Katrina M. Enverga

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to declare November 4 of every year as a special non-working holiday in the Province of Quezon, to commemorate the death anniversary, heroism and patriotism of Apolinario Dela Cruz, popularly known as "Hermano Puli".

Freedom of religion or belief is one of the liberties that the Filipino people fought and died for throughout the Spanish era in the country. One of the immortals in this religious struggle is Apolinario de la Cruz. His Confradia De Jesus paved the way for Father Jose Burgos' struggle to secularize Philippine parishes and Father Gregorio Aglipay's efforts to establish the Iglesia Filipina Independiente.

Hermano Pule rendered invaluable service in our country by founding the brotherhood popularly known as Confradia De Jesus. The brotherhood or religious organization that Hermano Pule founded spread like wildfire in the Province of Tayabas (now Quezon, Laguna and some towns in Batangas) which historical research has proved as one way of showing nationalism during that time.

Hermano Pule stands out among the heroes of the Filipino people. He saw the power of religion on the life of his countrymen. He knew that colonial rule could not be overthrown by force or use of arms. His studies in the library of the Hospital de San Juan de Dios convinced him that religion was a powerful means to awaken his people and liberate them from the abusive colonial government.

Thus, it is but fitting and proper to honor and emulate the heroism and patriotism of Apolinario (Hermano Pule) de la Cruz and give the people of Quezon Province full opportunity to commemorate the vent with appropriate ceremonies.

In light of the foregoing, passage of this bill is urgently sought.



ANNA KATRINA M. ENVERGA

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11
12 AN ACT DECLARING EVERY FOURTH DAY OF NOVEMBER AS A SPECIAL NON-
13 WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEZON

14
15 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
16 *Congress assembled:*

17
18 **SECTION. 1.** November 4 of every year is hereby declared as a special non-
19 working holiday in the Province of Quezon, to commemorate the death anniversary,
20 heroism and patriotism of Apolinario Dela Cruz, popularly known as "Hermano Puli".

21
22 **SEC. 2.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

23
24 APPROVED,
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