# Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

### **EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6697



Introduced by: Hon. Shirlyn L. Bañas-Nograles

### AN ACT

DECLARING JUNE 15 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF GENERAL SANTOS IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS CITY CHARTER ANNIVERSARY

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

On June 15, 1968, Republic Act 5412 or the "Charter of the City of General Santos" took effect, converting the Municipality of General Santos in the Province of South Cotabato into the independent City of General Santos.

RA 5412 is one of the most important pieces of Filipino legislation in the history of the City of General Santos. It recognized the common desire of the people of the City of General Santos, or *Generals*, for a better life by pursuing progress through perseverance – a vision passed down by the city's visionary namesake, Paulino T. Santos Sr., to us, the current generation.

Today, the highly-urbanized City of General Santos, home to more than half a million people, is a leading agro-industrial hub in Region XII. It stands as one of the most competitive cities in the country, ranking 8<sup>th</sup> in Mindanao in 2018, on its 50<sup>th</sup> year of being.

The city charter undeniably ignited the community's "remarkable development by leaps and bounds" and woke up "this once sleepy town known as *Dadiangas*" into the Boom City of the South.

As a city, it ought to commemorate that day of transformation to reflect on the decades of dedication that made the City of General Santos into what it is today.

In view thereof, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

SHIRLYN L. BAÑAS-NOGRALES

1st District, South Cotabato

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

SECTION 1. June 15 of every year is hereby declared a special nonworking holiday in the City of General Santos in commemoration of its city charter anniversary.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,