



Senate
Office of the Secretary

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE]
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES]
First Regular Session]

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

S.B. No. 1153

Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

AN ACT
DECLARING FEBRUARY 21 OF EVERY YEAR AS 'ARAW NG MARINDUQUE,'
A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY
IN THE PROVINCE OF MARINDUQUE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Known to be the "Heart of the Philippines" and the home of the Moriones festival, Marinduque has a long and colorful history before it became a province.

Initially, Marinduque, along with Mindoro, was part of the province of Batangas when the latter was founded in 1581. Thereafter, it was separated from Batangas and became a part of Mindoro as a corregimiento. In 1671, Marinduque functioned as a province but was later reduced as a Mindoro sub-province.

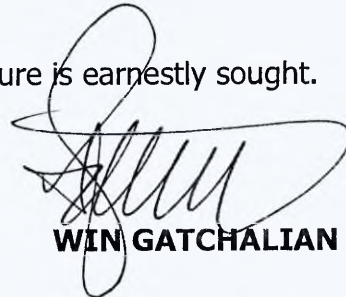
With the overthrow of the Spanish regime in the country, Marinduque declared its separation from Mindoro and from the Spanish rule. This declaration was ratified by the ruling class from the different towns of the island province, led by Martin Lardizabal, the military governor of Marinduque's first revolutionary provincial government. On May 1, 1901, Marinduque was finally converted into a new province by virtue of Philippine Commission Act No. 125.

However, sometime in 1902, Marinduque's status as a province was short-lived. Act No. 499 annexed Marinduque to the Province of Tayabas (now Quezon). It was later on declared as a sub-province of Tayabas under Act No. 1649. Finally, on February 21, 1920, Act No. 2880 re-established the Province of Marinduque as a separate and independent province from Tayabas.

All these circumstances make February 21 a significant day for the final recognition of Marinduque's founding, without the overtures of being ruled by another province. Accordingly, this bill seeks to institutionalize February 21 of every year as the "Araw ng Marinduque", declaring it as a non-working holiday in the province.

Making the province's founding anniversary as a local holiday will remind the local community about its long-standing history, culture and traditions. It can also boost the community morale as this annual fiesta celebration will create better camaraderie and support among the Marinduqueños.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



WIN GATCHALIAN



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IN THE PROVINCE OF MARINDUQUE**

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

1 SECTION 1. *Araw ng Marinduque.* - It is hereby declared that February
2 21 of every year is a special non-working holiday in the Province of Marinduque,
3 to be known as "Araw ng Marinduque," in commemoration of its founding
4 anniversary.

5
6 SEC. 2. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
7 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the
8 Philippines.

Approved,