

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fourteenth Congress

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 48

Sponsored by Representatives RONALD V. SINGSON and ROMAN T. ROMULO

A RESOLUTION URGING THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT TO DECLARE JULY 27 AS A NATIONAL HOLIDAY FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO'S PHILIPPINE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 26, CHAPTER 7 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) is a religious denomination established in the Philippines through the efforts of Felix Y. Manalo, a native of Tipas, Taguig, Rizal on July 27, 1914;

WHEREAS, for the past ninety-three (93) years, it led its members to the faithful obedience of Biblical doctrines embracing Christian values and humanitarian service;

WHEREAS, their socio-activities are well-received and recognized by the government and the groups they serve, specially when they conduct tree-planting, blood-letting, medical, dental and legal missions, livelihood seminars, clean-up drives, preschool and out-of-school youth and adult tutorials, among others. These activities, though undertaken throughout the year, are highlighted during the observance of their Church anniversary;

WHEREAS, Section 26, Chapter 7 of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of the Philippines, has enumerated the different regular holidays and being observed nationwide;

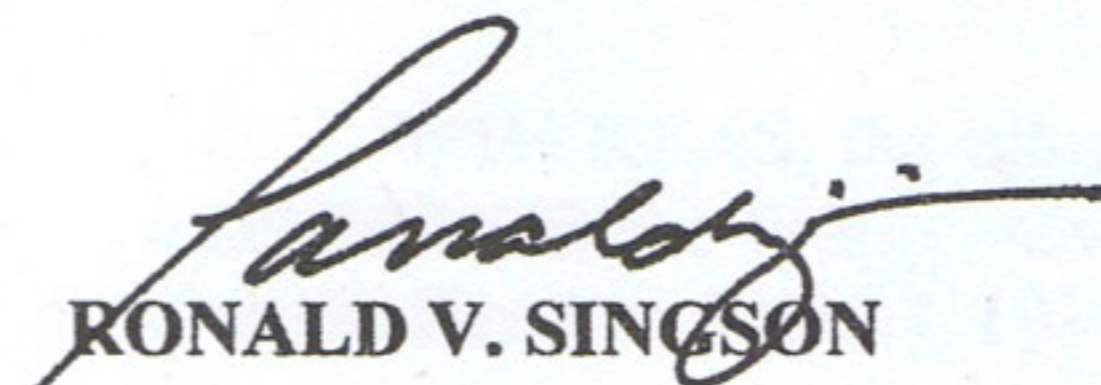
WHEREAS, setting aside July 27 each year as a national holiday will enable the members of the Church to focus their attention and efforts to these socio-civic activities which are a part of their meaningful anniversary observance. It will also benefit even a greater number of Filipino citizens, whether Iglesia Ni Cristo members or not;


WHEREAS, there is need to highlight not just the local but also the international activities of the Iglesia Ni Cristo, which is now present in a total of eightysix (86) countries and territories, with membership involving more than 100 nationalities and races;

WHEREAS, giving importance to July 27 is in line with the constitutional principle of equal treatment of all religions whereby not only Catholic and Muslim religious activities are declared national holidays. This would be in keeping with the equal protection of laws provisions of the Constitution mandating that all persons or things similarly situated should be treated alike, both as to rights conferred and responsibilities imposed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to urge Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to declare July 27 of every year as a national holiday for the observance of the Iglesia Ni Cristo's Philippine founding anniversary, amending for the purpose Section 26, Chapter 7 of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987

Adopted.


RONALD V. SINGSON


ROMAN T. ROMULO