

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1621

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Introduced by Hon. RONALD V. SINGSON and Hon. ROMAN T. ROMULO

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

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.

For the past ninety-three (93) years, it led its members to the faithful obedience of biblical doctrines embracing Christian values and humanitarian service.

Their socio-civic 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.

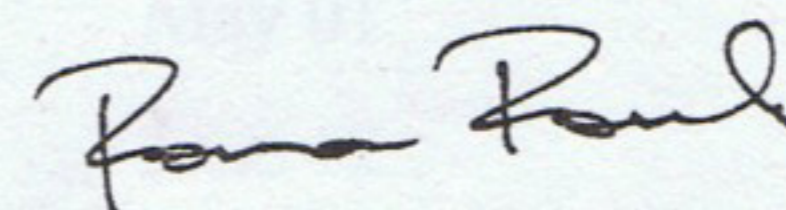
Thus, giving them July 27 of each year as a national holiday will enable them to focus their attention and efforts to these socio-civic activities which are a part of their meaningful anniversary observance. It will also benefit even a greater number of Filipino citizens whether INC members or not.

This would also be in line with the constitutional principle of equal treatment of all religions whereby not only Catholic and Muslim religious activities are declared national holidays.

Finally, it 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.

Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
RONALD V. SINGSON

  
ROMAN T. ROMULO