

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

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S E N A T E

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 81

Submitted by the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture on MAY 16 2017

Re: Senate Bill No. 108

Recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senators Escudero and Gordon

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**MR. PRESIDENT:**

The Committee on Education, Arts and Culture to which was referred Senate Bill No. 108, introduced by Senator Richard J. Gordon, entitled:

**"AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 27 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE VICTORY OF LAPU-LAPU AND HIS MEN OVER THE SPANIARDS LED BY FERDINAND MAGELLAN IN THE HISTORIC BATTLE OF MACTAN ON APRIL 27, 1521, TO BE KNOWN AS LAPU-LAPU DAY OR ADLAW NI LAPU-LAPU"**

has considered the same and has the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved without amendments.

Respectfully submitted:



SEN. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO  
Chairperson

Vice Chairpersons:

SEN. SONNY M. ANGARA

SEN. SHERWIN GATCHALIAN

SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA

SEN. PAOLO BENIGNO AQUINO IV

SEN. JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

Members:

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SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON

SEN. GRACE POE

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SEN. EMMANUEL "MANNY" D. PACQUIAO

SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

SEN. ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV

SEN. RISA HONTIVEROS

SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" PANGILINAN

Ex-Officio Members:

SEN. FRANKLIN M. DRILON  
*Senate Minority Floor Leader*

SEN. VICENTE C. SOTTO III  
*Senate Majority Floor Leader*

SEN. RALPH G. RECTO  
*Senate President Pro-Tempore*

HON. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III  
*Senate President*

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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SENATE  
S. No. 108

Introduced by **Senator Richard "Dick" J. Gordon**

**AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 27 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE VICTORY OF LAPU-LAPU AND HIS MEN OVER THE SPANIARDS LED BY FERDINAND MAGELLAN IN THE HISTORIC BATTLE OF MACTAN ON APRIL 27, 1521, TO BE KNOWN AS LAPU-LAPU DAY OR ADLAW NI LAPU- LAPU**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*Ne'er shall invaders trample thy sacred shores!*

Embodying the line in the Philippine National Anthem, "*sa manlulupig, 'di ka pasisil,*" Lapu-Lapu was the first successful defender of the Philippine shores. He was a native Muslim of Mactan and the earliest known indigenous Visayan Muslim chieftain and datu in the island of Mactan.

When the Spaniards first set foot on the Philippines, they had a goal to convert the local people to Spanish traditions and customs, primary of which was conversion to Christianity. Unlike Rajah Humabon of Cebu and other chiefs of the neighboring islands, Lapu-Lapu refused to acknowledge the Spanish sovereignty over the islands and convert to Christianity.

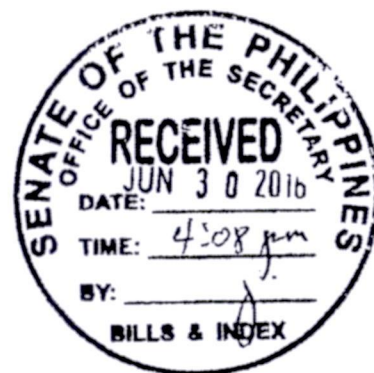
Thus, on April 27, 1521, Lapu-Lapu together with the men of Mactan, fought Ferdinand Magellan and successfully defeated him, rejecting the change he wanted to bring with the Spanish flag. Today, Lapu-Lapu is regarded as the first national hero of the Philippines who resisted and repulsed the Spanish invaders and pushed them back to the seas, defending the land he calls home, now part of the Philippine territory.

Lapu-Lapu had strong principles and was a peaceful leader until invaded, possessing the qualities of courage, bravery, strength, honor, and integrity, which should be emulated by every Filipino.

In keeping with the Filipino tradition of commemorating momentous events in national history, this bill proposes the declaration of April 27 as a special working public holiday to be known as Lapu-Lapu Day or *Adlaw ni Lapu-Lapu*, as a fitting tribute to the courage displayed by Lapu-Lapu and his men in the Battle of Mactan.

**RICHARD "DICK" J. GORDON**  
Senator

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SENATE  
S. No. 108

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**AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 27 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE VICTORY OF LAPU-LAPU AND HIS MEN OVER THE SPANIARDS LED BY FERDINAND MAGELLAN IN THE HISTORIC BATTLE OF MACTAN ON APRIL 27, 1521, TO BE KNOWN AS LAPU-LAPU DAY OR ADLAW NI LAPU-LAPU**

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

1           SECTION 1. *Lapu-Lapu Day.* – The twenty-seventh (27<sup>th</sup>) day of April of every  
2 year is hereby declared as a special working public holiday throughout the country to  
3 commemorate the victory of Lapu-Lapu and his men over the Spaniards in the historic  
4 battle of Mactan on April 27, 1521, to be known as Lapu-Lapu Day or *Adlaw ni Lapu-*  
5 *Lapu.*

6           Sec. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or  
7 other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
8 repealed or modified accordingly.

9           Sec. 3. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the  
10 completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general  
11 circulation in the Philippines.

12           Approved,