

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5095



Introduced by CONGRESSMAN ALFRED VARGAS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Fifth District of Quezon City or the Novaliches District is one of the fastest developing areas in Quezon City. It has a size of 5,246.72 hectares, comprises 14 barangays, and its population has already reached the half-million mark. Located at the northernmost part of the city, Novaliches serves as the gateway to the metropolis of the big province of Bulacan and is also the geographical center of Quezon City, San Jose, and Caloocan City. The District also houses the La Mesa Dam Watershed, which supplies water to over 20 million residents of Metro Manila, and the La Mesa Eco-Park, an ecological nature reserve site that has become a favorite destination of city dwellers.

Apart from its development potential, the Novaliches District has also been a witness to the Philippines' rich history. The District is the home of the Katipunan Tree which was "a staging area of the Katipuneros during the Philippine Revolution. Under this tree, the Katipuneros held meetings and treated their wounded."¹ In addition, it is in one of the barangays in Novaliches where Melchora Aquino, more popularly known as Tandang Sora, last stood her ground and was eventually arrested by the Guardia Civil on August 29, 1896.²

The separate legislative district of Novaliches was created by virtue of Republic Act. No. 10170, which was approved on July 2, 2012.

This bill seeks to declare July 2 of every year as "Araw ng Novaliches," to instill a sense of pride to all Novaleños.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is sought.


ALFRED VARGAS

¹ Historical Marker installed by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (formerly National Historical Institute). The Katipunan Tree is located in the grounds of the Metro Manila College in Barangay Kaligayahah, Novaliches, Quezon City.

² Paraiso, B.A.C. (2012) "Tandang Sora: Profile of a Courageous Mother." National Historical Commission of the Philippines. [<http://nhcp.gov.ph/tandang-sora-profile-of-a-courageous-mother/>] Retrieved 6 February 2017.

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AN ACT
DECLARING JULY 2 OF EVERY YEAR AS 'ARAW NG NOVALICHES' IN THE FIFTH DISTRICT OF QUEZON CITY

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

SECTION 1. The second day of July of every year is hereby declared as "Araw ng Novaliches" to be observed in the Fifth District of Quezon City.

SEC 2. To ensure meaningful observance of the "Araw ng Novaliches," all district and barangay government officials, officers of public and private learning institutions, and employers in the private sector shall encourage and afford sufficient time and opportunities for their employees and students to engage and participate in any activity conducted within the premises of their respective offices, establishments, or schools to celebrate the "Araw ng Novaliches," such as, but not limited to, parades, fairs, sportsfest, and the like.

SEC 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,