

ACT 7

H.B. NO. 604

A Bill for an Act Relating to Sakada Day.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes that the Filipino community has contributed significantly and substantially to the history, economy, culture, and heritage of Hawaii. Since the coming of the first Filipinos—fifteen *sakadas*, or Filipino plantation workers, who arrived in Honolulu aboard the *S.S. Doric* more than one hundred years ago on December 20, 1906, to work as contract la-

borers in the plantation industry—some one hundred twenty thousand *sakadas* arrived in Hawaii between 1906 and 1934. These *sakadas* paved the way for the great legacy of the Filipino community in Hawaii. Today, Filipinos and part-Filipinos constitute the largest ethnic group in the State of Hawaii.

The purpose of this Act is to recognize, acknowledge, and understand the historical significance of the arrival of the first *sakadas* in Hawaii. Furthermore, this Act:

- (1) Celebrates the historical significance and strong relationship between the State of Hawaii and the Republic of the Philippines; and
- (2) Recognizes the great contributions of Filipinos to Hawaii's diverse and multicultural society, as well as the rich culture and proud heritage of the Filipino people and their continuing positive influence on life in Hawaii.

SECTION 2. Chapter 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“§8- **Sakada Day.** December 20 of each year shall be known and designated as “Sakada Day”; provided that this day is not and shall not be construed to be a state holiday.”

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 9, 2015.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.