

**[ PROCLAMATION NO. 168, May 16, 2011 ]**

**DECLARING MAY 19 OF EVERY YEAR AS FAMILY DOCTORS' DAY**

**WHEREAS**, Article II Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution states that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

**WHEREAS**, family medicine is a medical specialty devoted to comprehensive, personal and continuing health care for people of all ages in the context of the family and the community;

**WHEREAS**, family medicine was recognized in 1979 by the Department of Health (DOH) as one of the fields of specialization where its doctors can train;

**WHEREAS**, family medicine and family doctors play a very important role in the healthcare system of our country;

**WHEREAS**, the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA), of which the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) is a founding member, has created and launched the "World Family Doctors Day" on 19 May 2010 and will have its first commemoration on 19 May 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to express our appreciation for the work of our family doctors and to spread awareness of their vital contribution to the country.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare May 19 of every year as Family Doctors' Day.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 16th day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

**(Sgd.) BENIGNO S. AQUINO  
III**

By the President:  
**(Sgd.) PAQUITO N. OCHOA,  
JR.**  
Executive Secretary

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