

**[ PROCLAMATION NO. 342, March 18, 2003 ]**

**DECLARING THE LAST SATURDAY OF MARCH 2003 AND THE  
THIRD SATURDAY OF OCTOBER 2003 AND EVERY YEAR  
THEREAFTER AS BARANGAY ASSEMBLY DAY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 384, Chapter 1, Book III of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that as the basic political unit, the barangay serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, projects and activities in the community, and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled;

**WHEREAS**, Section 397, Chapter 6, Book III of the Local Government Code provides, among others, that there shall be a barangay assembly composed of all persons who are actual residents of the barangay for at least six (6) months, fifteen years of age or over, citizens of the Philippines, and duly registered in the list of barangay assembly members. The barangay assembly shall meet at least twice a year to hear and discuss matters involving, semestral report of the sangguniang barangay concerning its activities and finances, as well as problems affecting the barangay;

**WHEREAS**, Section 398, Chapter VI, Book III of- the Local Government Code provides the power of the barangay assembly to initiate legislative process by recommending to the sangguniang barangay the adoption of measures for the welfare of the barangay and the city or municipality concerned; decide on the adoption of initiative as a legal process whereby the registered voters of the barangay may directly propose, enact or amend any ordinance, and hear and pass upon the semestral report of the sangguniang barangay concerning its activities and finances;

**WHEREAS**, to strictly comply with the requirements of the Local Government Code having a twice a year barangay assembly meeting and diligently fulfill the purpose thereof, and to emphasize the role and importance of the barangay in the government, a proclamation from the President is necessary.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the law do hereby declare the last Saturday of March 2003 and the third Saturday of October 2003 and every year thereafter as Barangay Assembly Day.

Done in the City of Manila, this 18th day of March, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

**(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**