Assembly Bill No. 83–Assemblymembers Mosca; D'Silva, Flanagan, González, Hunt, Jackson, Miller, Nadeem, Nguyen and Torres-Fossett

Joint Sponsor: Senator Nguyen

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to days of observance; requiring the Governor to annually proclaim October 25 to be "Larry Itliong Day" in the State of Nevada; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, various days, weeks and months of observance are recognized in this State. (NRS 236.018-236.095) This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim October 25 to be "Larry Itliong Day" in the State of Nevada.

EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

WHEREAS, October 25 is the anniversary of the birth of Modesto "Larry" Dulay Itliong in the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, After immigrating to the United States as a teenager in 1929, Larry Itliong began working as a farm laborer and in the canneries of Alaska, where he helped found the Alaska Cannery Workers Union; and

WHEREAS, After his service in the U.S. Army during World War II, Larry Itliong moved to Stockton, California, where he continued his labor organization work, becoming a leader in the Filipino-American community of respected elders in the farm labor movement known as the "Manongs"; and

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong founded the Filipino Farm Labor Union in 1956 and the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong played an instrumental role in leading the 1965-1970 Delano Grape Strike and related boycott, including convincing the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), a primarily Mexican-American farmworkers union led by Cesar Chavez, to join forces with the AWOC; and

WHEREAS, Garnering national attention, the Delano Grape Strike resulted in the first union contracts for farmworkers, which included improved wages, benefits and working conditions, and transformed the farm labor movement in the United States through its use of boycotts, the groundbreaking collaboration between farmworkers of Filipino and Mexican heritage and the formation of

the United Farm Workers labor union from the merger of the AWOC and the NFWA; and

WHEREAS, Known as a father of the West Coast labor movement, Larry Itliong was a tireless labor organizer, community leader and activist for social and economic justice; and

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong's legacy is a source of pride for Filipino-Americans, who constitute the largest segment of the Asian-American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population, which is the fastest growing demographic group in the State of Nevada and the United States; and

WHEREAS, The State of Nevada desires to recognize the many contributions Larry Itliong made to the State of Nevada and the United States; now, therefore,

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 236 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The Governor shall annually proclaim October 25 to be "Larry Itliong Day" in the State of Nevada.

2. The proclamation must call upon the news media, educators, business and labor leaders and appropriate governmental officers to bring to the attention of the residents of Nevada the important contributions Larry Itliong made to the State of Nevada and the United States.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

20 ~~~~~ 25