

(S.B. 1300)

(No. 131)

(Approved July 21, 2006)

AN ACT

To declare the month of September of each year as “Home Sewing Month” in Puerto Rico.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Throughout the years home sewing has been done mostly by women and some men, many of whom have practiced this activity as a profession. For decades the needle industry has been distinguished for being a pillar of our economy. But sadly, as of 1990 this industry has diminished to the point where it has practically disappeared. This has left many families (and regions) in Puerto Rico in precarious conditions because with the shut down of employment options in the needle industry its workers have been unable to effectively rejoin the work force. The Artisanry Development Office of the Industrial Development Company (PRIDCO, Spanish acronym) includes a limited use program called “Learning for Conserving.” At present the Home Sewing Association (HSA), a nonprofit entity has been promoting the craft of sewing.

This Association recently conducted a telephone survey in the United States whereby it was found that some of the first 10 reason for engaging in home sewing indicated that:

- Sewing is a relaxing activity.

- Sewing develops creativity in those who practice it.
- Sewing is an alternate source of savings and income.
- Sewing allows spending quality time with the children.

In view of these findings in 2005, the Home Sewing Association promotes and urges all entities related in one way or another to this industry to foster, encourage and recognize the benefits of the craft of sewing through activities carried out during the month of September, which it has designated as the “Home Sewing Month.”

Considering that it is true that home sewing is beneficial to the quality of life of those who practice this craft and that it also contributes financially to the achievement of said quality of life, this Legislature believes it is convenient and necessary that the People of Puerto Rico join this movement and declare the month of September as the “Home Sewing Month.” Thus, shall all types of entities and persons be encouraged to promote and practice home sewing for the purpose of benefiting the family and Puerto Rican society.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.-The month of September of each year is hereby declared as “Home Sewing Month.”

Section 2.-The Governor of Puerto Rico, through a proclamation to that effect, shall urge the People of Puerto Rico to commemorate the month of September of each year as “Home Sewing Month.”

Section 3.-That any other institution interested in this celebration shall be in charge of disseminating information regarding the meaning of this event.

Section 4.-This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 131 (S.B. 1300) of the 3rd Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to declare the month of September of each year as “Home Sewing Month” in Puerto Rico,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 13th of September of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director