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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 603



Introduced by REP. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Public school teachers occupy a socio-historical role and are looked up as the source of enlightenment. In recent times, however, the public school teacher has collectively been misunderstood, neglected and even disregarded. For turning to the streets to air their grievances and seek support for their demands, they have been vilified, threatened and even treacherously handled by the government officials whose fundamental concern includes the interest of the public school teachers.

Yet, when we look into the provisions of the fundamental law of the State:

> "The State shall take into account, regional and sectoral norms and conditions and shall encourage local planning in the development of educational policies and programs." [Article XIV, Sec. 5 (1)]; and,
>
> "The State shall assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through adequate remuneration and other means of job satisfaction and fulfillment." [Article XVI, Sec. 5 (5)]

To alleviate the plight of teachers, the passage of this Bill is strongly recommended.

FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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AN ACT
PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS WHO ARE ASSIGNED OUTSIDE OF THEIR TOWNS AND PROVINCES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by SENATE and HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Public School Teachers' Incentive Act."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* - It is the policy of the state to provide incentives to public school teachers who are assigned to teaching jobs outside of their respective towns and provinces. As much as possible, public school teachers shall be assigned to their respective towns.

SECTION 3. Assignment to another town within the same province - Any public school teacher who is assigned to a town other than his own, shall in addition to his basic salary and benefits under the Salary

Standardization Law, be entitled to One Thousand (₱1,000.00) Pesos monthly as incentive allowance.

SECTION 4. *Assignment to Another Province* - Any public school teacher who is assigned to a town of another province, other than his own, shall in addition to his basic salary and benefits under the Salary Standardization Law be entitled to receive Two Thousand (₱2,000.00) Pesos a month as incentive allowance.

SECTION 5. *Transferees* - The provisions of this Act shall apply to any public school teacher who is officially transferred from his original assignment in accordance with lawful orders of his/her superiors.

SECTION 6. A public school teacher who has received benefits under this Act but is eventually transferred to his own town shall cease to be entitled to the incentive allowance therein.

SECTION 7. *Tax Exemption* - Incentive allowance received under the provisions of this Act shall be exempt from tax liability.

SECTION 8. For purposes of determining the town or province of origin of a public school teacher, the scholastic records filed in the Department of Education shall be consulted; otherwise, the sealed certification from the town mayor or the provincial governor shall be used.

SECTION 9. The incentive allowance provided in this Act shall not be availed of by public school teachers who are assigned to a different town or province in the event of a national disaster or national emergency.

SECTION 10. *Funding* - The President is hereby authorized to realign or transfer any item of appropriation within the Department of Education and/or utilize any savings therein to carry out the purpose of this Act. Whatever additional amount as may be needed for its implementation shall be included in the Overall Appropriations Act of the ensuing fiscal years.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause* - All laws, all city charters or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified as the case may be.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity* - This Act shall take effect after two (2) publications in newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,