Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENATIVES
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 770

Introduced by Representative Harlin Cast. Abayon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed bill seeks to upgrade the salary grade level of public school teachers from salary grade 10 to 19 which corresponds to almost six thousand pesos increase in their monthly basic salaries. With this increase in salaries, more qualified and competent educators will be attracted to teach in public schools. Definitely, this will greatly help motive out teachers to strive for excellence in their field and improve the quality of education in the public schools.

Public school teachers are among the most underpaid workers in our society, Despite the fact that they are heralded as molders of our children's future, public school teachers receive only less than ten thousand pesos a month each for their basic salary. The teachers are considered to be the heart of the education system, hence, the government needs to give priority their interests and welfare.

The low salaries received by our public school teachers have been a major disincentive for them to improve their skills in teaching and pursue further education and training. In addition, the public schools have failed to attract the best and the brightest students from the top colleges and universities because of the low salary levels, preventing our public education system from benefiting from the knowledge and expertise of qualified teachers.

Studies show that most of the teachers have net take home pay of less than five thousand pesos because of so many deductions made such as the GSIS premiums, withholding taxes, Philhealth contributions Hence, the teacher brings home only a meager amount of salary which in most cases is unable to meet the high cost of living today.

Hence, approval of the attached measure is earnestly urged.

HARLIN CAST. ABAYON

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AN ACT
TO UPGRADE THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM SALARY GRADE TEN TO NINETEEN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. The present minimum salary grade of public school teachers in the elementary and secondary schools should be upgraded from the Grade 10 to 19; Provided, however, That the salary upgrading shall be differential in accordance with the qualifications and length of service rendered by teachers and shall not be prejudiced by across the board salary adjustments.

SECTION 2. The National Government shall appropriate such amount as may be necessary to carry our the objectives of this Act; Provided, That the salary increase of public school teachers shall take priority over other non-educational and non-agricultural budgetary allocations.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education shall income up with a specific programmed budget needed to cover the expenses for the upgrading in salary levels for all the corresponding teacher plantilla positions for a period of at least five years to allow the Department of Budget and Management make the necessary budgetary adjustments to facilitate the smooth implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following the approval of this Act.

SECTION 5. The Department of Education (DE) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 6. Any provisions of law, order, decree, including rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. If any part of provisions of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,