Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. B. No. 1190



Introduced by **Honorable Eulogio "Amang" R. Magsaysay**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is common knowledge that the teaching profession is one of the lowest paying professions in the country. As such, it is rarely a primary career choice among the best and the brightest future professionals of the land.

One way of improving the quality of education is by providing decent salary to public school teachers/educators. As the molders of young inquisitive minds and next-generation leaders, they deserve no less. However, the last time our teachers/educators received a five percent (5%) across-the-board adjustment in their salary was in 1992 under the tenure of then Education Secretary Ricardo Gloria.

The lowest paid teachers/educators are receiving a monthly income of P9,939, a salary that is way below the poverty line, which is P16,500 in NCR as measured by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), for example. Their take-home pay does not take them home. To secure a better future for their family, they take the option of trying their luck in foreign lands leaving their families behind and the country with insufficient educators for its growing student population. The migration of teachers/educators to find better opportunities deprives our education system with the knowledge and expertise of skilled, competent and dedicated school teachers/educators.

To prevent brain-drain and to alleviate the present condition of our teachers/educators, the bill seeks to provide non-wage benefits in the form of special discounts on private establishments, medicines, restaurants, fares and other business institutions.

This bill aims to improve the plight of our teachers/educators and eventually bring about social transformation through a reinvigorated teaching force.

In view of the foregoing, early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

Eulogio "Amang" R. Magsaysay

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FURTHER BENEFITS TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS PROVIDING THE MECHANICS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. ***Short Title*** **-** This Act shall be known as the ***"Kaguruan Kabayanihan Act"***

SECTION 2. ***Declaration of Policy*** **-** Pursuant to the 1987 Constitution, professionalism and adequate remuneration and benefits of public school teachers/educators shall be a primary concern of the State. Towards this end, the State shall give due recognition for their unselfish dedication to the profession by supplementing their meager salary with further benefits.

SECTION 3. ***Definition of Terms*** **-** As used in this Act, teachers/ educators shall include only duly registered public school teachers/educators or their equivalent, i.e., instructors and professors.

SECTION 4. ***Privileges for schoolteachers/ educators*** **-** Public school teachers/ educators, in addition to their existing pay and benefits, shall be entitled to the following benefits:

a) A fifteen percent (15%) discount from restaurants, wet markets, supermarkets and rice dealers anywhere in the country, provided that these establishments may claim the cost as tax credit.

b) A discount of fifteen percent (15%) on all purchases and admission fees from amusement and entertainment centers, such as, but not limited to, movie theaters, concert halls and carnivals, provided that these establishments may claim the cost as tax credit.

c) A discount of fifteen percent (15%) on economy class air transportation passenger fees charged by airlines, provided that these establishments may claim the cost as tax credit.

d) A discount of fifteen percent (15%) on all economy and special economy class or their equivalent on sea transportation fees charged by shipping lines, provided that these establishments may claim the cost as tax credit.

e) A discount of fifteen percent (15%) on all land transport passenger fees charged by bus and taxi companies, Metro Rail Transit, Light Rail Transit and Philippine National Railways, provided that these companies may claim the cost as tax credit.

f) A discount of fifteen percent (15%) on all medicines purchased, provided that to avail of such discounts, a prescription in the name of the teacher/ educator be presented for such medicines, provided that these establishments may claim the cost as tax credit.

Provided further that these discounts would not be used in conjunction with other discounts enjoyed by the schoolteachers/ educators, e.g. senior citizen discounts.

SECTION 5. ***Monitoring Report*** - The Department of Education, the Technological Education and Skills Development Authority and the Commission on Higher Education shall submit to both Houses of Congress a quarterly report on the effectiveness and implementation of this Act.

SECTION 6. ***Penalties*** – Any person, owner of establishments, or responsible officer of companies who fails to provide the mandated benefits of this Act, shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding Twenty Thousand Pesos or by imprisonment not exceeding twelve (12) months or both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

SECTION 7. ***Implementing Guidelines*** **-** The Department of Education, the Technological Education and Skills Development Authority, the Commission on Higher Education, the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Finance, the Department of Transportation and Communications, and the Department of Health shall, within ninety days from the promulgation of this Act, issue the necessary guidelines to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 8. ***Congressional Oversight Committee*** **-** There is hereby created a Congressional Oversight Committee composed of six (6) members: three (3) from the House of Representatives and three (3) from the Senate. The Senate President shall appoint members from the Senate based on the proportional representation of the parties or coalitions therein with at least one (1) Senator representing the minority. The Speaker of the House shall appoint members from the House of Representatives based on the proportional representation of the parties or coalitions therein with at least one (1) Representative representing the minority.

The Oversight Committee shall have the power to promulgate its own rules to oversee the implementation of this Act and to review the implementing rules and regulations issued by the agencies mentioned in Section 7 of this Act.

SECTION 9. ***Separability Clause*** **-** If any provision in this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 10. ***Repealing Clause*** - All laws, rules and regulations or part or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, superseded or amended accordingly.

SECTION 11. ***Effectivity Clause*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,