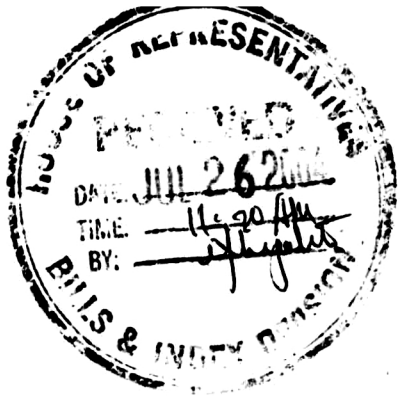


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HB NO. 1628

Introduced by **Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is disappointing to read reports of the Commission on Higher Education that more than half of the 500,000 teachers in 1,269 public and private colleges and universities nationwide are not academically qualified to teach. Accordingly, they lack the minimum requirement of a masteral degree in the arts or sciences. More so, CHED contends that this was one of the main factors that contributed to the decline of the quality of education in higher learning institutions.

Accordingly, in AY 1994-1995, only 25.62 percent or 17,134 of the 66,876 teachers earned a masters degree in the Philippines. This was a low number compared with other universities in Asia and in the United States where faculty members were all doctoral holders.

This bill then seeks to fill in the gap for the sustainability of the teaching profession. Under this bill, teachers will be granted a scholarship to pursue a post-graduate degree with minimum qualifications but with corresponding service obligations once a post-graduate degree is obtained.

In addition, this bill also grants a scholarship to at least two children of the teacher for a bachelor's degree, and a longevity pay considering their years of continuous meritorious service.

With the noble cause of improving the current situation of the instructors and professors nationwide, the early approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

ROSELLER L. BARINAGA
Representative
2nd District, Zamboanga del Norte

Congress of the Philippines)
Thirteenth Congress)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB NO. 1628

Introduced by **Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga**

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy*. It is hereby declared a policy of the State to give the highest priority for the adoption of measures that will continue to upgrade teacher's skills and proficiency. For this purpose, the State shall continue to provide viable sources of fund to finance teachers development programs for all public and private school teachers.

SEC. 2. *Scholarship Fund*. There shall be created a scholarship fund for public and private school teachers under the supervision of the Department of Education (Dep. Ed.), in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

SEC. 3. *Scholarship Coverage*. The scholarship grant shall cover graduate and post graduate courses within the country.

SEC. 4. *Scholarship Grant*. The scholarship program shall be a grant of financial assistance for tuition and other regular school fees, including allowance for textbooks and course related, if any.

SEC. 5. *Qualification and Requirements*. A teacher desiring to avail of the benefits of the scholarship program must have the following qualifications:

a) a teacher for at least 2 years in any level whether primary, secondary or tertiary education in any DECS registered school, college or university in the country;

b) of good moral character and in good health; and

c) such other qualifications and requirements as the DECS and CHED may determine;

d) a written consent from the school allowing the teacher to apply for a study grant under this Act;

SEC. 6. *Study Leave*. During the last year of the graduate course, the grantee shall be entitled to a sabbatical leave with pay to finish the thesis or dissertation requirements of the course. The Dep. Ed. and CHED shall provide the necessary request for sabbatical leave approval for the grantee's school.

SEC. 7. *Non-Completion of Scholarship*. In case the grantee does not complete his/her study grant under this Act, s/he shall be required to reimburse the Dep. Ed. for all the expenses incurred up to the time the grantee terminates his/her course without completing it.

SEC. 8. *Service Obligation*. A grantee under the scholarship program, after completion of the graduate and post-graduate school program shall be required to continue teaching in the institution s/he is presently employed for a minimum period equivalent to the length of the scholarship program. Otherwise s/he shall reimburse the fund assistance received under this Act in full.

SEC. 9. *Other Benefits*.

a) Educational Benefits - In addition to all other benefits to which teachers are entitled under existing laws, rules and regulations, at least two (2) of their children, shall be granted scholarship to any state college or university to pursue any bachelor's degree. The scholarship shall cover tuition and other school fees: *Provided*, That they meet the academic requirements for admission of the said college or university: *Provided, further*, that their continuous enjoyment of these educational benefits is subject to the condition that they meet the standards of academic proficiency to be set by the Dep. Ed. and/or CHED.

The grantee under this educational benefit shall complete his /her course as herein provided, otherwise s/he shall reimburse the Dep. Ed. for all the expenses incurred up to the time the grantee terminates his/her course without completing it.

b) Longevity Pay - Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, an annual longevity pay equivalent to ten percent (10%) of the monthly basic pay shall be paid to teachers for every year of service but not exceeding five (5) years of continuous, efficient and meritorious service.

SEC. 10. *Appropriation*. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the State Scholarship Program of the Dep. Ed. and CHED under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be, included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, decree, executive order, administrative order or rules and regulations contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* If any provision, or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity Clause.* This law shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.