

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



Thirteenth Congress

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2292

Introduced by **MONICO O. PUENTEVELLA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Public school teachers are the unsung heroes in government service. Aside from their regular but demanding duties in preparing our young for the future, other responsibilities such as participation in community activities, service as poll canvassers and officials in the elections, require the time and resources of these teachers. The constant demands of their duties have inflicted physical and psychological stress on our teachers and their families.

It is a sad fact that our public school teachers are underpaid despite their critical social responsibilities. Studies have shown that most teachers have a net take home pay of less than five thousand pesos because of many deductions from their pay check such as loans from private lending institutions and the usual deductions such as GSIS premiums, Philhealth and Pag-ibig contributions. Because of this, the teacher brings home only a meager amount barely enough to meet the rising cost of living today.

Thirteen years ago, the EDCOM recommended in 1991 to upgrade the minimum salary levels of teachers from Grade 10 to Grade 17. However, despite the rising prices of basic commodities, fare hikes, high cost of living, this proposal remains unimplemented. It is due to our lack of effort to give our teachers their due that we drive them out to seek greener pastures. There is an urgent need to re-evaluate our country's public education system due to the poor quality of education being received by students nowadays, to do this, we need to have competent and qualified educators to raise the standard of public education in our country who can only be motivated by increases in their salaries and benefits.

In recognition therefore of the critical social responsibility of teachers, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


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AN ACT
UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE LEVEL OF PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LEVELS FROM GRADE 10 TO
GRADE 17 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. The present salary grade level of public school teachers in the elementary and secondary levels shall be upgraded from Grade 10 to Grade 17; Provided however that the salary upgrading shall be differentiated in accordance with the qualifications and length of service rendered by teachers and shall not be prejudiced by across the board salary adjustments.

SEC. 2. The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act for the year following the approval of this Act.

SEC. 3. The Department of Education and the Department of Budget and Management shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4 All laws, orders decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5 This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication either in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,