

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Thirteenth Congress
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill 2680



Introduced by **REP. SALACNIB F. BATERINA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the appointment and hiring of public school teachers, Republic Act 8190 aims to give priority to applicants who are residents of the barangay, city or municipality where the public elementary or high school is located. While this law ensures convenience for teachers who are assigned to schools closest to their residences, it is detrimental to current efforts in improving the general standard of education in the country. This law is flawed in the assumption that there is an even distribution of competent teachers across cities, municipalities or barangays.

Prior to the enactment of RA 8190, the appointment and assignment of public school teachers had been based mainly on merit and fitness, as determined by ranking in competency examinations and qualifications pursuant to Section 3 of Republic Act 4670 or the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, regardless of their place of residence.

The Act (RA 8190) has not only been abused in that certifications of the heads of the barangays have supplanted effective ranking methods. The tendency for an eligible within the barangay to perpetuate mediocrity in the barangay has been observed in many areas by the implementation of that law. It has also been said that there is no infusion of better and more intelligent teachers who have been excluded from appointment by the operation of RA 8190.

With a decline in the quality of instruction comes a corresponding decline in student learning performance. Recent findings, particularly the results of international competency examinations revealed that Filipino pupils in various levels ranked poorly in terms of knowledge in basic subjects, as compared to their foreign counterparts. Moreover, majority of public elementary school graduates have fared miserably in high school readiness tests, necessitating the establishment of a "bridge" program.

The Filipino student deserves the best instruction from the best mentors in the country. It is imperative for the Department of Education to implement an effective system of selection and hiring of teachers without the constraints and limitations of the residency requirement.

Thus, the repeal of Republic Act 8190 is hereby earnestly sought.


SALACNIB F. BATERINA

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AN ACT
PRESCRIBING THE RECRUITMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS
BASED ON MERIT AND FITNESS, REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT 8190,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

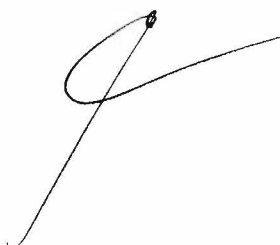
Section 1. It is hereby declared a policy of the state to provide quality public education through the most competent teaching personnel.

Section 2. The appointment and assignment of teachers for public elementary and secondary schools shall be based exclusively on merit and fitness, as may be determined by ranking in competency examinations prior to the acceptance of applications, as well as their qualifications pursuant to Section 3 of Republic Act 4670 or the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, regardless of their place of residence.

Section 3. Republic Act 8190 and pertinent provisions of Department of Education Order No. 1, Series of 2004 are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal stroke.