

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 53



Introduced by: **HON. EMILIO C. MACIAS II**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution explicitly mandates the State to give highest budgetary priority to education. The rationale behind this mandate is not only to make education accessible to all but also to give quality education to all Filipinos. It is sad to note however, that the noble intent of the framers of the Constitution will be rendered meaningless if the present policy in the appointment of the major players in the educational system, the classroom teachers, will not be rectified. It has been observed that the appointment of classroom teachers has been made by considerations other than merits and fitness of the candidates. It is not infrequent when applicants without the necessary credentials except political connections are able to infiltrate and effectively deteriorate the teaching profession. The ranking system, an effective method to determine the teaching capability of the applicants, in most cases, has been disregarded. This situation has legions of skeptics in the appointment process.

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This bill therefore, seeks to strengthen the ranking system in the appointment of public school teachers. To effectively address this issue, the Local School Boards shall be empowered to screen and recommend applicants, who possess the necessary qualifications and standards, including the ranking system, set by the Department to any teaching position in their area of jurisdiction. The said Boards, being composed of local chief executives, division superintendents of schools, supervisors, chairman of the education committee of local government units, duly elected president of the federation of parents-teachers association and the duly elected non-academic personnel of public schools, are in a better position to determine the needs of the school. This bill will also provide a check and balance to the appointing power of DECS by granting the power to screen and recommend the applicants to another body, the Local School Boards. Thus, the appointment of non-qualified candidates will be severely restrained.

It is the foremost intention of this important piece of legislation to attract the best and the brightest to the teaching position if only to provide quality education to all.

Furthermore, this bill will strictly observe the requirement prescribed in Republic Act No. 8190 entitled, "AN ACT GRANTING PRIORITY TO RESIDENTS OF THE BARANGAY, MUNICIPALITY OR CITY WHERE THE SCHOOL IS LOCATED, IN THE APPOINTMENT OF CLASSROOM TEACHERS."

In view of the great importance of this measure originally numbered as House Bill No. 5841, the House of Representatives in the Eleventh Congress had stamped its approval on March 27, 2000. However, due to lack of material time, the Senate failed to act on this measure. Thus, the need to re-file this bill.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this important piece of legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emilio C. Macias II', with a large, stylized initial 'E'.

EMILIO C. MACIAS II M.D.
Representative
Second Dist., Negros Oriental

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AN ACT
EMPOWERING THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS TO SCREEN AND
RECOMMEND THE APPLICANTS TO TEACHING POSITIONS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *The Local School Boards; Powers.* – The Local Schools are hereby empowered to screen and recommend applicant to any teaching position in the Department of Education, , hereinafter referred to as the Department. Provided, however, That the applicant possesses the necessary qualifications and standards, including the ranking system, set by the Department.

SEC. 2. *Manner of Appointment.* – Public school teachers shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Department or his duly authorized representative based on the recommendation submitted by the Local School Boards.

SEC. 3. *Rules and Regulations.* The Department, in coordination with the League of Local Government Units, shall issue the implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60) days upon approval of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,