

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

H.B. NO. 128

Introduced by **HON. AL FRANCIS C. BICHARA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to grant our unsung heroes, our public school teachers, a non-wage benefit in the form of free college education in any state college or university for at least one dependent child.

There is no need to further belabor the untold sacrifices our public school teachers are experiencing in their work as well as in raising their respective families. Time and again, we are always confronted with complaints from our public school teachers of numerous workloads, low pay and high cost of living. But then, the government is saddled with financial limitations and other problems to immediately answer the needs of our public school teachers. However, there are other means which the national government can assist without unnecessarily burdening the national treasury. Thus, we propose a non-wage benefit that may have a multiplier effect in the lives of our public school teachers and their families.

Barangay officials and their legitimate dependent children are already granted exemption during their incumbency from paying tuition and matriculation fees in state colleges or university. If our government can give this privilege to our barangay officials, there is no reason why we cannot also grant this benefit to our public school teachers. Considering the financial limitations of the government, this bill merely covers only one dependent child of a public school teacher. This gesture may be small compared to the contribution of our public school teachers to our country, but we can start with this one small step to alleviate and improve the plight of our public school teachers and their respective families.

In view of the foregoing considerations, approval of this bill is highly recommended.



AL FRANCIS C. BICHARA
2nd District, Albay

H.B. No. 128

Introduced by HON. AL FRANCIS C. BICHARA

**AN ACT GRANTING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS
NON -WAGE BENEFITS IN THE FORM OF FREE TERTIARY EDUCATION IN ANY
STATE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY FOR ONE (1) DEPENDENT CHILD, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Section 1. Public elementary and high school teachers shall be exempted from paying tuition and matriculation fees for one (1) dependent child attending any state college or university, provided however, that should both spouses are public school teachers, they shall be entitled to two (2) dependent children who shall be exempt from paying tuition and matriculation fees.

Section 2. The Department of Education and Commission on Higher Education shall jointly promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Section 3. All other laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances and rules and regulations or part thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 4. This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,