

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H. B. No. 430

Introduced by HONORABLE JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

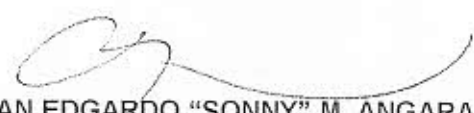
Thousands of outstanding students are consistently being acknowledged for their academic excellence and virtues. However, such accomplishments may have not been achieved if it were not for the perseverance of educators. They are considered as the unsung heroes of our times because many have neglected the role they play in the advancement of education in our country.

It is in this light that the State put emphasis on its duty to ensure that the performance and the morale of teachers will be kept at the highest level. Although the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers aims to protect the welfare of teachers, it is still insufficient to respond to the needs of teachers giving the high cost of living today.

The Magna Carta for Public School Teachers had failed to provide benefits to the dependents of teachers. Thus, this bill seeks to grant additional benefits to teachers by giving their dependents the right to scholarship grants, free medical treatment and pension in case of disability of the teachers. In addition, it also encourages teachers to form cooperatives in their own municipalities to help promote their economic welfare.

It is hoped that through this bill, the teachers will be motivated to work even harder in their task of shaping the minds of our youth. As we develop more competent and dedicated teachers, we can be assured of quality education for our youth, and for our nation - towards a better and enlightened future generation.

In view of the foregoing considerations, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought for.


JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA
Representative
Lone District, Province of Aurora

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H. B. No. 430

Introduced by Honorable JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

AN ACT
PROVIDING BENEFITS TO DEPENDENTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS
AMENDING FOR THESE PURPOSES REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER FORTY-SIX
HUNDRED SEVENTY (R.A. NO. 4670) OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA
CARTA FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Definition of Terms.* For purposes of this Act, the following shall mean:

- (a) **"Qualified Dependents"** refers to one more legitimate recognized natural or adopted children living with or dependent upon the teacher for their chief support where such children are not more than twenty-one (21) years of age, unmarried and not gainfully employed, or where such children, regardless of age are incapable of self-support because of physical defect.
- (b) **"Teacher"** is any person engaged in classroom, in any level of instruction, on full-time basis, including guidance counsellors, school librarians, industrial arts or vocational instructors, and all other persons performing supervisory and/or administrative functions in all schools, colleges and universities operated by the Government or its political subdivision; but shall not include school nurses, school physicians, school dentists, and other school employees.

SEC. 2. Section 22 of Republic Act No. 4670, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec 22. Medical Examination and Treatment. – Compulsory medical examination shall be provided free of charge for all teachers before they take up teaching, and shall be repeated not less than once a year during the teacher's professional life. Where medical examination show that medical treatment and/or hospitalization is necessary, same shall be provided free by the government entity paying the salary of the teachers.

"QUALIFIED DEPENDENTS OF TEACHERS SHALL ALSO AVAIL OF THE SAME BENEFITS AS LONG AS THE TEACHER IS IN ACTIVE SERVICE."

SEC. 3. Educational Benefits. In addition to all other benefits to which teachers are entitled under existing laws, rules and regulations, their children, not exceeding four (4), shall be eligible to enter any state college and university or state vocational or technical school to pursue any bachelor's degree preferably in science and technology courses, vocational or technical course free of any charge including, but not limited to, tuition and matriculation fees.

SEC. 4. Eligibility. The dependents of the teachers must meet the academic requirement for admission to subject state college or university, vocational or technical school.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules. The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Technical Educational Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall promulgate rules and regulations which shall guide the implementation of the aforementioned sections.

SEC. 6. Section 23 of subject Republic Act (R.A. No. 4670), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 23. Compensation for Injuries - Teachers shall be protected against the consequences of employment injuries in accordance with existing laws. The effects of the physical and nervous strain on the teacher's health shall be recognized as a compensable occupational disease in accordance with existing laws."

"IN CASES OF PERMANENT PARTIAL DISABILITY DUE TO WORK-RELATED SICKNESS OR INJURY WHERE THE TEACHER HAD BEEN IN SERVICE FOR 5 YEARS, THE DEPENDENTS ARE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY PENSION OF AT LEAST P500.00."

"IN CASES OF PERMANENT TOTAL DISABILITY DUE TO WORK-RELATED SICKNESS OR INJURY WHERE THE TEACHER HAD BEEN IN SERVICE FOR 5 YEARS, THE DEPENDENTS ARE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY PENSION OF AT LEAST P800."

"THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WILL HANDLE THE DISTRIBUTION OF PENSION BENEFITS TO THE DEPENDENTS OF TEACHERS."

SEC. 7. Section 27 of the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers is hereby amended to be read as:

"SEC. 27 Freedom to Organize. - Public School teachers shall have the right to freely and without previous authorization both to establish and to join organizations of their choosing, whether local or national to further and defend their interests."

"THE FORMATION OF COOPERATIVES RUN BY TEACHERS AND DEPENDENTS OF TEACHERS IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY IS ENCOURAGED. SUCH COOPERATIVE SHALL PROVIDE CREDIT AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS LIVELIHOOD TRAINING PROGRAMS."

"THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) WILL GIVE THE APPROPRIATE TRAINING PROGRAMS TO RESPOND TO THE

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the provisions thereof not affected by such declaration shall remain in force and affect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, rules and regulations or part or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, superseded or amended accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,