

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H. B. No. 1503



Introduced by Congresswoman BELLAFLOR J. ANGARA-CASTILLO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Educators are the unsung heroes of our time. The academic achievements of students are celebrated, but no proper recognition is given to the teachers who moulded these students and played a major role in their scholastic advancement.

The Magna Carta for Public School Teachers has helped promote the welfare of public school teachers, but has not given them proper recognition in terms of benefits for their dependents. This bill seeks to help public school teachers by extending to their dependents the benefits of (i) scholarship grants, (ii) free medical treatment and (iii) monthly pension in case the teacher suffers from a disability. This bill also encourages them to form cooperatives in their municipalities to promote their economic welfare.

Recognition in the form of benefits to their dependents will attract highly competent individuals to become public school educators and will help teachers cope with the spiraling cost of living, improve their morale, and motivate them to become better and more effective educators. This, in turn, will redound to the long-term benefit of the country by attracting and retaining able educators and by ensuring quality education for our youth and a better and enlightened future generation of Filipinos.

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


BELLAFLOR J. ANGARA-CASTILLO
Representative
Lone District, Aurora Province

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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**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. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 4670, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, is hereby amended to include the following as the third paragraph of said provision:

“**Qualified Dependent**” refers to a child, whether legitimate or illegitimate, who is not married, is not gainfully employed, is living with or dependent upon the teacher for chief support, and is either (i) not more than twenty-one (21) years of age, or (ii) incapable of self-support because of physical defect, regardless of age.

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 MAY AVAIL OF THE SAME BENEFITS WHILE 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 CASE OF THE PERMANENT PARTIAL DISABILITY DUE TO WORK-RELATED SICKNESS OR INJURY OF A TEACHER WHO HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE SERVICE FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS, HIS OR HER QUALIFIED DEPENDENTS ARE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY PENSION OF AT LEAST P500.00."

"IN CASES OF THE PERMANENT TOTAL DISABILITY DUE TO WORK-RELATED SICKNESS OR INJURY OF A TEACHER WHO HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE SERVICE FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS, HIS OR HER QUALIFIED DEPENDENTS ARE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY PENSION OF AT LEAST P800."

"THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL HANDLE THE DISTRIBUTION OF PENSION BENEFITS TO THE QUALIFIED 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 STATE ENCOURAGES THE FORMATION OF COOPERATIVES COMPOSED OF TEACHERS AND THEIR QUALIFIED DEPENDENTS IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY TO PROVIDE CREDIT AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AND LIVELIHOOD TRAININGS."

"THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) SHALL GIVE THE APPROPRIATE TRAINING PROGRAMS TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF THE TEACHERS AND THEIR QUALIFIED DEPENDENTS."

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,