

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

16th Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4810**



Introduced by Representative Emil L. Ong

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 5 of the Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution states, thus:

"The State shall assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through remunerated and other means of job satisfaction and fulfilment".

Public school teachers are looked upon and heralded as mentors for the children and the youth and as such, the profession should and must also be looked upon with respect and dignity. Providing the teachers with a dignified salary is one of those steps in order to make the profession worthy of respect and emulation. At present, a teacher 1 position receives a monthly basic salary of P 18,549.00 as implemented under the third phase of the Salary Standardization Law (SSL). This amount however is not sufficient to meet the ever growing needs of any teacher or a Filipino under the present times where inflation is constantly threatening the value of any hard earned money.

In recent past when the salary of teachers was below standards, the country had seen the exodus of teachers abroad to seek greener pastures in Hong Kong, the Middle East, and elsewhere in the world. These teachers either worked as domestic helpers, caregivers, sales clerks, to name a few. In effect, this aggravated the already declining quality of education because of lack of qualified teachers who are willing to bear the brunt of working in far flung barangays of the country. The country in a way lost a working force which could probably propel the children and the youth into productive citizens who might have contributed to the country's economic progress.

The proposed bill hopes to alleviate the living condition of our public school teachers. A salary increase will motivate good public knowledge-shapers to continue teaching and contribute to the country's efforts in achieving quality education for our children and youth alike.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emil L. Ong".
EMIL L. ONG

Representative, 2nd District Northern Samar

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE BASIC SALARY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS BOTH IN
THE ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL LEVELS TO TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND
PESOS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. The provision of any law to the contrary notwithstanding, the present basic salary level of public school teachers both in the elementary and high schools levels shall be increased to a starting pay of TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P 25,000.00) a month; Provided however, that salary increase shall be differentiated in accordance with the qualifications and length of service rendered by the public school teacher and shall not prejudice or be prejudiced by across the board salary adjustments: Provided further, that merit promotion on the basis of performance evaluation results shall be considered and treated as separate and distinct from the upgraded salary provided for under this Act.

Section 2. The initial amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be sourced from the savings of the Department of Education.

Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary to implement this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act for the year following the approval of this Act.

Section 3. The Secretary of Education shall promulgate such necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 4. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed and/or amended accordingly.

Section 5. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Approved.