

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10668



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Access to education is a right of all.¹ It helps in inequality and poverty reduction as well as in women empowerment. It increases the social mobility of everyone more opportunities are presented. While the government is firm on its commitment to provide free education of children in public schools, it largely remains overlooked. The quality of education still faces a lot of challenges such as lack in teaching resources and overcrowding classes. Problems derived from the lack of public classrooms and other facilities are expected due also to the growing number of Filipino enrollees each year.

Public school classrooms are designed to hold an ideal class size of 45 students for high school and 35 students for elementary. However, with the increasing number of students and lack of adequate facilities, class size had ballooned to between 75 and 80 students and often divided classrooms into two sections with both different class subjects.²

¹ Article 26, Section 1 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights

² Inquirer. Students swamp 'congested' Metro Manila schools. Information retrieved from <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/607755/school-heads-cede-offices-to-classes-626-metro-public-schools-have-2-shifts>. Dated June 3, 2014

In 2014, public schools in Metro Manila alone had to cope with many enrollees that they had to improvise makeshift classrooms by using corridors, libraries, and laboratories.³ Overcrowded classroom conditions can make it difficult for students to focus on their lessons. Likewise, teachers are also unable to supervise every student and respond to their academic needs.

This measure, therefore, seeks to address the overcrowding in classrooms by regulating the class size of public schools. It shall set the minimum standard size of no more than 35 students per class, to a maximum class size of 50 as a large class. Education is a significant component in human development as well as in the economic progress of a country. Thus, it is our responsibility to ensure that the students are in the best conditions for learning.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

Representative

Magdalo Para Sa Pilipino Party-List

³ Ibid.

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AN ACT

REGULATING CLASS SIZE IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.*– This Act shall be known as the “Public School Size
2 Law”.

3
4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*– It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education. It is likewise declared
6 that the State shall provide just compensation and human working conditions for public
7 school teachers. It shall address the congested environment of the country’s public
8 schools setting which adversely affect the learning experience provided to Filipino
9 school children. Towards this end, the State shall ensure the necessary standard and
10 establish standards for class size. Further, it shall guarantee that teachers are entitled
11 to protection from unregulated increases in class size as well as to adequately
12 compensate their actual workload.

13

1 Sec. 3. *Coverage.*– This Act shall apply to all classes in public schools, both in
2 the elementary and high school levels, as defined by the Department of Education,
3 and to all public school teachers therein, whether paid by the national or local
4 government.

5
6 Sec. 4. *Standard Class Size.*– Each class to be handled by a single teacher shall
7 have a standard size of 35 students. For purposes of this Act, any class with not more
8 than 35 students shall be considered a standard class.

9
10 Sec. 5. *Large Class Size.*– Any class exceeding 35 students up to a maximum of
11 50 students shall be considered a large class. In no case shall a class size more than
12 or in excess of 50 students shall be permitted.

13
14 Sec. 6. *Large Class Honorarium.*– A teacher handling a large class shall be
15 entitled to a large class honorarium equivalent to one percent (1%) of her daily rate
16 for every student in excess of the standard class size of 35. The formula shall apply to
17 all classes assigned to the teacher during the school year.

18
19 Sec. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*– The Department of Education
20 shall within a period of thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate the
21 rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

22
23 Sec. 8. *Appropriations.*– The amount of Five Billion Pesos (P5,000,000,000.00)
24 is hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such sums
25 as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the in the
26 annual General Appropriations Act.

27
28 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.*– If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
29 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall
30 remain in force and effect.

1 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.*– Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
2 order, letter of instruction, rules or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this
3 Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

4
5 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.*– This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following
6 its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,