

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

19th Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 714



Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE EMIGDIO P. TANJUATCO III**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Parallel to the mandate of 1987 Constitution which guarantees the rights of all the citizens to quality and accessible education at all levels, and likewise warrants appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.

The role of educational leaders and teachers to our society in providing critical thinking and humanity is indispensable. Therefore, the duty to preserve and uphold the dignity of the teaching profession becomes crucial.

Public school teachers are among the lowest paid professionals in the country. In spite of this, they toil every single day, waking up in the wee hours of the morning to get to their classes ahead of their students, taking with them every ounce of patience and care that they could muster, making sure that our children, their students, are provided with the knowledge and skills that they will need to prepare them for their future.

Aside from diligence and dedication, however, their work also require resources for pedagogy that sadly, the Department of Education insufficiently provides. Among these are classroom supplies that they finance out of their meager salaries that is barely enough for their family's expenditures.

Currently, our public school teachers receive only Php 1,500.00 for their annual teaching supplies. While this is an improvement than the cash allowance worth Php 700.00 they were receiving in 2011, this does not cover the costs of teaching supplies like pens, chalk, class records, lesson plans, cartolina and other stationery, flash drives, and many others.

As a matter of principle, the State upholds that it must "assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through adequate remuneration and other means of job satisfaction and fulfillment." Pursuant to the foregoing, this bill seeks to increase the public school teachers' annual teaching supplies allowance from Php 1,500.00 to Php 6,000.00.

Our teachers deserve priority attention, much as they devote their lives to our children's mental development and moral and ethical values formation. With the additional allowance, the burden on public school teachers will be alleviated and their working conditions will certainly improve.

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



EMIGDIO P. TANJUATCO III

Republic of the Philippines
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19th Congress
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House Bill No. **714**

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE EMIGDIO P. TANJUATCO III**

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT OF A TEACHING SUPPLIES ALLOWANCE
FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the “Teaching Supplies Allowance Act”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared to the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. In line with this and in recognition of the need to ensure the retention of the best available talents in the teaching profession, the State shall provide for a teaching supplies allowance for every public school teacher to support the provision of quality education for all Filipino students.

SEC. 3. *Teaching Supplies Allowance.* A Teaching Supplies Allowance for the purchase of chalks, eraser, forms, and other classroom supplies and materials in the amount of Six Thousand Pesos (Php 6,000.00) per teacher per school per year is hereby authorized.

SEC. 4. *Coverage.* The grant of the cash allowance authorized in this act shall be limited to teachers who render hours of actual teaching and/or equivalent teaching related activities and duties during the school year.

SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary to implement the provision of this Act shall be included in the budget of the Department of Education in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.* Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Budget and Management, in consultation with the DepEd, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Department of Education. Subsequently, the necessary funding shall be included in the appropriations for the Department of Education in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified, amended, or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 10. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,