

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4072



INTRODUCED BY REP. PM VARGAS

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes the role of educators in nation building and through the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers (RA 4670) provides to promote and improve the social and economic status of public-school teachers, their living and working conditions and their terms of employment and career prospects.

Teachers have the reputation for being overworked and underpaid. Their salaries are not commensurate to the volume of work and amount of sacrifices they make to educate the youth. In addition, teachers often shell out money from their own pockets to purchase the materials they use in classes. This is on top of the "chalk allowance" that teachers receive from the Department of Education.

For academic year 2021 to 2022, public-school teachers are given a mere Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000.00) for their annual teaching supplies allowance to cover the cost of supplies like pens, class records, cartolina papers, art supplies, CDs, flash drive, and others all throughout the year. While the amount can aid teachers in procuring the teaching supplies they need, when spread across the months of the school year, the amount translates to only about Php 500 monthly, which is not enough to cover for the supplies that teachers need.

To capacitate and empower our teachers, this bill seeks to institutionalize the grant of a teaching supplies allowance for public school teachers and increase it from Php5,000 to Php10,000.

By providing Filipino educators with the proper support to procure tools and equipment to hone the holistic development of students, we can ensure the bright future of our nation.

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



REP. PM VARGAS

Fifth District, Quezon City

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

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

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to promote and improve the economic status of teachers and assist them in providing quality education to their students.

SECTION 3. Teaching Supplies Allowance. — A Teaching Supplies Allowance for the purchase of chalks, erasers, forms, and other classroom supplies and materials in the amount of Ten Thousand Pesos (Php10,000.00) per teacher per school year is hereby authorized.

SECTION 4. Coverage. — The grant of the cash allowance authorized in this Act shall be limited to teachers who are engaged in actual classroom teaching in public basic education.

SECTION 5. Funding. — In the first year of the effectivity of this Act, the amount of five thousand pesos (Php 5, 000.00) per teacher shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Department of Education (DepEd) for the teaching supplies allowance, while the additional amount of five thousand pesos (Php5, 000.00) per teacher shall be charged against the any available funds and savings of the DepEd. Thereafter, the amount of ten

thousand pesos (Php 10,000.00) per teacher per school year shall be included in the DepEd budget for the teaching supplies allowance under the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. Periodic Review for Increases. — The Secretary of Education is hereby mandated to conduct a periodic review of the Teaching Supplies Allowance, taking into account the current prices of classroom supplies, and, if warranted, recommend the necessary increase in the amount of the allowance.

SECTION 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The DepEd shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations needed to properly implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, orders, rules and regulations, other issuances, or part thereof, inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,