

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

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 10254**



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Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**  
Partylist Representative Alfred Delos Santos

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall 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. Corollary to this mandate is the responsibility of the State to ensure that the learning environment in schools and classrooms is conducive for learning.

During the start of the academic year 2022 - 2023, various reports show that there are classes that are congested with as many as fifty students.<sup>1 2</sup> An article from The Asia Foundation, a non-profit organization, reported that studies show that overcrowded classrooms not only make it difficult for students to concentrate on their lessons, but also limit the amount of time teachers can spend on improving their teaching methods.<sup>3</sup> Teachers in congested classrooms are also generally over-stretched and are more likely to suffer from burnout.<sup>3</sup> Larger class sizes also make it difficult for teachers to monitor the students' learning progress and maintain discipline inside the classroom.<sup>4</sup>

The problem on school congestion is multi-faceted and requires various solutions on different fronts. While the government is working on addressing

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<sup>1</sup> ABS-CBN News. (August 22, 2022). 'Cramped' Classrooms Seen on 1<sup>st</sup> Day of In-Person Classes. <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/22/22/cramped-classrooms-seen-on-1st-day-of-in-person-classes>

<sup>2</sup> CNN Philippines. (August 22, 2022). Overcrowded classrooms seen on first day of classes – ACT Teachers Party-List. <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2022/8/22/overcrowded-classrooms-seen-f2f-classes.html>

<sup>3</sup> N. Jones. (April 5, 2017). School Congestion in the Philippines: A Breakthrough Solution. The Asia Foundation. <https://asiafoundation.org/2017/04/05/school-congestion-philippines-breakthrough-solution/>

<sup>4</sup> C. Chi. (July 29, 2022). DepEd Data Shows Imminent Classroom Shortage with Face-to-Face Classes. Philstar Global. <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/07/29/2198838/depd-data-shows-imminent-classroom-shortage-face-face-classes>

the problem on the front of constructing additional classrooms and hiring more public school teachers, this bill seeks to standardize the number of students in a classroom to serve as the guide post in formulating plans and strategy for the country's education sector. This bill also seeks to compensate public school teachers who will handle large classes through the distribution of *large class honorarium* while the government simultaneously addresses other aspects of the school congestion problem.

It is for the foregoing premises that the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



**ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS**

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IDEAL CLASSROOM SIZE IN PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONALIZING THE LARGE CLASSROOM  
HONORARIUM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS**

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 “Classroom Size Act.”

**SECTION 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education. It is likewise declared a policy of the State to promote and pursue a classroom environment conducive for learning in all stages of education. The State shall ensure and safeguard the welfare of both the students and teachers in the classroom. Lastly, the State shall ensure that public school teachers shall be properly compensated in unavoidable cases of large classroom size.

**SECTION 3.** *Coverage.* – This Act shall apply to all classes in all public elementary schools, junior high schools, and senior high schools. This Act shall cover all public school teachers under the national government or their respective local governments.

**SECTION 4.** *Standard Class Size.* – The standard class size to be handled by a single teacher in public schools shall be thirty-five (35) students. Any class with less than thirty-five students shall be considered standard for purposes of this Act.

**SECTION 5. *Large Class Size.*** – A class with more than thirty-five students shall be considered a large class.

**SECTION 6. *Limit on Class Size.*** – A class in public schools shall not exceed fifty (50) students and shall only be allowed in exigent circumstances.

**SECTION 7. *Large Class Honorarium.*** – A public school teacher shall be entitled to a monthly honorarium of one thousand pesos (PHP 1,000.00) per large class assigned to the teacher during the academic year.

**SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Department of Education shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

**SECTION 9. *Appropriations and Initial Implementation.*** – The necessary amount for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual appropriations for the Department of Education. The initial implementation of the distribution of large class honorarium provided under Section 7 of this Act shall be on the academic year beginning on the year after the effectivity of this Act.

**SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act, or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.*** – All other laws, presidential decrees, orders, and issuances or portions thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 12. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,