



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10572



Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR DISTANCE INCENTIVE ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

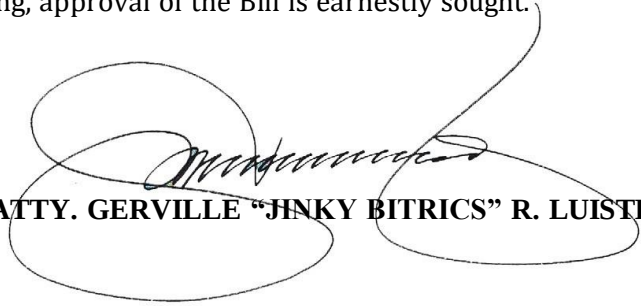
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The responsibility of providing basic public education rests with the national government, specifically through the Department of Education (DepEd). The 2022 General Appropriations Act has significantly increased the budget allocation for education, highlighting a major achievement of the Duterte Administration in addressing the sector's concerns, particularly regarding teachers' salary increases. This allocation is in line with Republic Act No. 4670, also known as the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, which emphasizes the necessity of providing adequate compensation and special hardship allowances to educators, especially those in remote or challenging locations. Furthermore, Republic Act No. 10533, or the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013, reinforces the importance of a well-compensated and motivated teaching workforce as essential for the successful implementation of the K-12 education system.

In 2021, Representative Alfred Vargas from Quezon City introduced House Bill No. 10174, advocating for a monthly incentive allowance for public school teachers. Similarly, this new bill aims to offer additional incentives and allowances to public school teachers assigned to areas outside their registered residence. This proposal acknowledges the considerable sacrifices made by these dedicated teachers in delivering basic education, often traveling great distances and facing challenging conditions. The necessity of integrating into new communities, leaving behind the comfort of their homes, and endangering their health and safety justifies the provision of additional allowances to support them in their noble profession.

Moreover, this legislation aims to encourage educational institutions to produce more competent and efficient teachers. It ensures that public school teachers are adequately compensated for their dedication to providing quality education, especially to students in remote areas of the Philippines. The alignment with these key legislative frameworks highlights the necessity and timeliness of this proposed bill, reflecting a comprehensive approach to enhancing the education system through better support for its educators.

In view of the foregoing, approval of the Bill is earnestly sought.



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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 "Distance Incentive Allowance for Public School Teachers Act of 2024"

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy* — The Philippine Constitution provides that all Filipinos have the right to receive free quality basic education. Furthermore, under the "Magna Carta for Public School Teachers", the promotion and improvement of the social and economic status of public school teachers, their living and working conditions, their terms of employment and career prospects in order that they may compare favorably with existing opportunities in other walks of life, attract and retain in the teaching profession more people with the proper qualifications, is of vital importance.

SEC. 3. *Grant of Distance Incentive Allowance* — Any provisions of law notwithstanding, all public school teachers assigned to a city or municipality other than the one where he or she is a resident will be given an additional monthly incentive allowance of PHP2,000.00 during said assignment. A public school teacher assigned to a city or municipality in another province, will be entitled an additional monthly incentive allowance of PHP4,000.00 during said assignment.

SEC. 4. *Exception from the Grant of Distance Incentive Allowance* — No public school teacher shall enjoy the grant of distance incentive allowance as stated in the immediately preceding section when his or her assignment to a different city / municipality / province is due to a national disaster or national emergency.

SEC. 5. *Tax Exemption* — The allowance as provided in Section 3 of this Act shall be exempt from tax liability.

SEC. 6. *Funding* — The Secretary of the Department of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which will be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* — The Secretary of the Department of Education shall prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause* — Should any part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof that are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause* — All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,