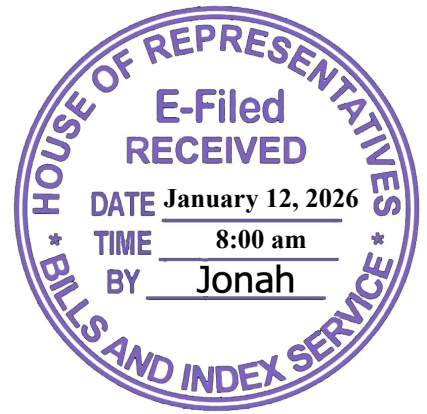


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7065



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

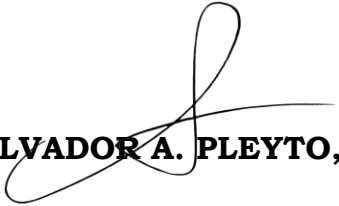
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The classroom is the primary environment for the intellectual and moral development of the youth. However, in recent years, public school teachers have increasingly reported challenges in maintaining classroom discipline. The rise of incidents involving student misconduct, coupled with the fear of being unfairly accused of child abuse under existing laws, has created a "chilling effect" on educators.

While the State is committed to protecting the rights of children, it must also recognize that teachers require a supportive legal and institutional environment to perform their duties effectively. Without clear guidelines and institutional protection, teachers are often left to defend themselves against administrative and criminal charges for legitimate acts of discipline.

This bill seeks to institutionalize support mechanisms for public school teachers and personnel by providing clear, standardized guidelines on classroom management. Legal assistance and protection to teachers facing charges related to student discipline will be offered and ensure that "teacher's rights" and "student's rights" coexist in a way that promotes a conducive learning environment.

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


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7065

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING SUPPORT MECHANISMS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL IN MATTERS OF STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND MECHANISMS FOR CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

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 "Student Discipline and Teacher Protection Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to promote and improve the working conditions of public school teachers. The State shall establish mechanisms to support teachers in the exercise of their duty to maintain discipline in the classroom and protect them from unfounded accusations of child abuse while performing their professional duties.

SEC. 3. *Classroom Management Guidelines.* – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall, within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, formulate a localized Manual on Student Discipline and Classroom Management. This manual shall:

- Set out the rights and responsibilities of teachers regarding student discipline.
- Define permissible and non-permissible disciplinary actions, ensuring they are non-violent and consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Provide a clear procedure for the handling of disciplinary cases within the school level.

SEC. 4. *Legal Assistance to Teachers.* – The DepEd, in coordination with the Public Attorney’s Office (PAO), shall provide legal representation and financial assistance to public school teachers and personnel who are facing administrative, civil, or criminal charges arising from the implementation of student discipline within the scope of their duties.

SEC. 5. *Protection from Malicious Prosecution.* – Any complaint for child abuse under Republic Act No. 7610 filed against a teacher shall not be given due course unless it is proven that the act complained of was committed with intent to debase, degrade, or demean the intrinsic worth and dignity of the child as a human being, and not as a legitimate exercise of classroom management.

SEC. 6. *Confidentiality of Proceedings.* – No person, whether public or private, shall release the name or identity of a teacher who is under investigation for a disciplinary incident until a final decision has been rendered. Violation of this provision shall be subject to administrative sanctions.

SEC. 7. *Professional Development.* – The DepEd shall provide systematic training for teachers on classroom management techniques, positive discipline, and dispute resolution to equip them with the skills to handle diverse student behaviors.

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – The DepEd, in consultation with recognized teacher organizations and the Department of Justice (DOJ), shall promulgate the IRR necessary for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,