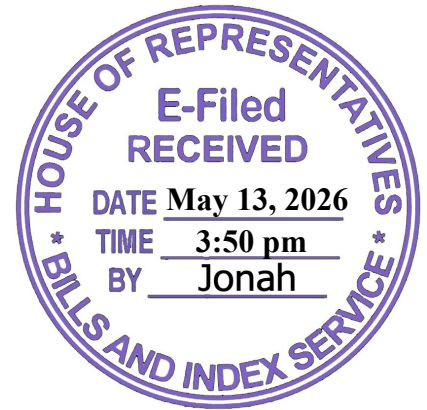


**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City**

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 9251



**Introduced by
ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO,
Gabriela Women's Party Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO,
and KABATAAN Party-List Rep. RENEE LOUISE M. CO**

**AN ACT
QUALIFYING ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS TO RECEIVE THE
TEACHING ALLOWANCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT 11997 OR THE *KABALIKAT SA PAGTUTURO ACT***

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act 11997 or *An Act Institutionalizing the Grant of a Teaching Allowance for Public School Teachers and Appropriating Funds Therefor* was enacted on March 13, 2024. Principally authored by ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. Antonio L. Tinio and Rep. France L. Castro, this law was borne out of a longstanding campaign for adequate support for the purchase of chalks, bond papers, cartolina, and countless other materials that they use in the delivery of education. Otherwise known as the *Kabalikat sa Pagtuturo Act*, the law not only institutionalized what was previously called the “chalk allowance” but increased it to ₱10,000.

But under current regulations implementing this law, only classroom teachers or those with teaching loads are qualified to receive the allowance. Section 4 of the IRR reiterates the coverage of the law—which has a broad language that should be interpreted appropriately. However, per Section 8, only “qualified public school teachers assigned with teaching load” are the ones entitled to the allowance. For instance, Principals, those assigned as Assistant School Head Designates or Department Head Designates, and

others whose plantilla positions who do not as a general rule have teaching loads, are required to present proof of actual teaching hours that they rendered, and they will be given only pro-rated teaching allowance. If they had not been assigned teaching loads within the school year, they do not qualify for it at all. There have been reports from the field of teachers getting zero teaching allowance because they have been assigned only non-teaching functions.

DepEd's interpretation closes its eyes to the intent of the law, that is, to provide assistance to public school teachers by covering the expenses necessary for the delivery of quality education, thus, "for the purchase of tangible or intangible teaching supplies and materials, the payment of incidental expenses, and the implementation or conduct of various learning delivery modalities." (Sections 2 and 4) By doing so, the DepEd excludes from the benefit many public school teachers who spend out of their own pockets for supplies, materials, and other expenses incidental to the delivery of education services.

To cure this situation, this Bill seeks to amend Republic Act 11997 by clarifying the legislative intent that all public school teachers are entitled to the grant of the teaching allowance. Republic Act 4670 or the *Magna Carta for Public School Teachers*, defines public school teachers as "all persons engaged in classroom teaching, in any level of instruction, on full-time basis, including x x x all other persons performing supervisory and/or administrative functions in all schools x x x operated by the Government or its political subdivisions; but shall not include school nurses, school physicians, school dentists, and other school employees." This means that even Principals or School Heads and Head Teachers, as well as those holding minimal classroom teaching loads such as Master Teachers, are public school teachers. In the course of their duties as such, they buy tangible and intangible teaching supplies, pay incidental expenses, and in general, implement the various learning delivery modalities—all of which must be paid for by the government through the teaching allowance per Sections 2 and 4 of Republic Act 11997.

For these reasons, immediate approval of this Bill is sought.

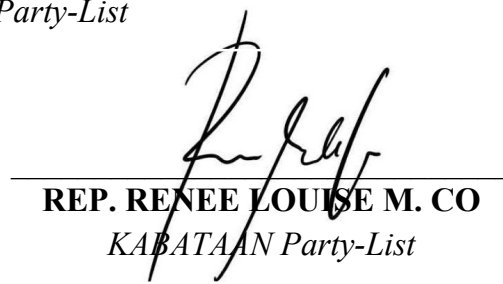


REP. ANTONIO L. TINIO

ACT Teachers Party-List



REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Gabriel Women's Party



REP. RENEE LOUISE M. CO
KABATAAN Party-List

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AN ACT
QUALIFYING ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS TO RECEIVE THE
TEACHING ALLOWANCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT 11997 OR THE *KABALIKAT SA PAGTUTURO ACT*

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act 11997 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 3. Coverage. - This grant of the cash allowance authorized in this Act shall cover all public school teachers **AS DEFINED IN REPUBLIC ACT 4670, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS**], who are engaged in basic education curriculum, consistent with the policy guidelines and learning delivery modalities recognized and implemented by the Department of Education (DepEd)]; **PROVIDED, THAT THE TEACHING ALLOWANCE SHALL BE GIVEN TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF TEACHING LOADS TO WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED, AND DESPITE THE ASSIGNMENT TO THEM OF NON-TEACHING FUNCTIONS.**”

SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, resolutions, orders or ordinances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. *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,