

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**
First Regular Session

'04 JUN 30 P10:30

SENATE
S. No. 1192RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Magsaysay, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Non-formal education (NFE) programs and projects are implemented by the Department of Education (DepEd) through the Bureau of Non-formal Education in each of the regions of the country. Each region is subdivided into school divisions. Each division is further subdivided into school districts numbering 2,046 all over the Philippines.

The District NFE coordinators are the persons most directly and actively involved in the overall implementation and coordination of NFE programs and projects within the service of the school division. While the Division NFE supervisor serves as planner/policy-maker, the District NFE coordinator is the immediate implementing personnel of such plans or project proposals in the schools and communities involved in the district areas. The position calls for dynamic leadership and creative talent in order to convert NFE plans or programs and ideas into wholesome, productive and income-generating activities.

It was precisely in view of the importance of the position that NFE workshops and seminars as well as scholarship programs leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Non-formal Education were initiated by DECS. Indeed, there are, at present, a number of colleges and universities, both public and private, which offer undergraduate courses in NFE.

Now, as before, district NFE coordinators also perform the work of classroom teachers with teaching loads. For all their responsibilities, they are only paid the salary of elementary grade teachers. To this day, there is no item for district NFE coordinators in the plantilla of every school district in the country.

It is strongly believed that the creation of national budget items for district non-formal education coordinators will not only do justice to school teachers who are made to perform dual functions but will also go a long way in giving the NFE programs and projects the focus and the attention they deserve. After all, such programs provide perhaps the only opportunity for a great number of our people, adult and children alike, to have access to some systematized educational activity outside the framework of the formal school system.

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


RAMON B. MAGSAYSAY, JR.

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**
First Regular Session

'04 JUN 30 P10:30

SENATE
S. No. 1192

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Magsaysay, Jr.

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF NON-FORMAL EDUCATION BY
CREATING ITEMS FOR DISTRICT NON-FORMAL EDUCATION COORDINATORS
AND TEACHERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. - It shall be the policy of the State to plan, implement and encourage non-formal and indigenous education programs that would respond to community needs and provide adult citizens, the disabled and out-of-school youths with the necessary skills to make them productive members of society.

SEC. 2. Creation of Positions. - The position of district non-formal education coordinator is hereby created in every school district in the Philippines. Elementary grade teachers who are actually designated and performing the duties and functions of a district non-formal education coordinator shall have the rank and privileges of an elementary school principal subject to adjustments approved by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

There shall also be created items for at least two teachers for non-formal education in each school district under the Bureau of Non-Formal Education of the Department of Education (DepEd). Each NFE teacher shall have the rank and privileges of a regular teacher under the Department.

SEC. 3. Duties. - The district coordinators and teachers shall be responsible for the year-round implementation of the projects and programs of the Bureau of Non-Formal Education (DepEd). Furthermore, they shall initiate and plan such other programs as they may deem necessary for the advancement of non-formal education in their respective districts and shall maintain close working relationship with the school principal and with the nongovernmental organizations (NGO's) duly accredited by the Department of Education.

SEC. 4. Qualifications. - The district non-formal education coordinators shall meet the qualification standards to be determined by the Department of Education: Provided, however, That, in case of district non-formal education teachers the qualification standards shall be appropriate to the nature and scope of the various non-formal education activities- Provided, further, That, the following general qualifications for both are met:

- (4.1) Possess an appropriate civil service eligibility or its equivalent;
- (4.2) Appropriate training and/or experience in non-traditional methods of learning;
- (4.3) Ability to organize and implement non-formal education programs and activities-, and
- (4.4) Skills in literacy education and livelihood development.

Each non-formal education teacher must possess such skills, training and qualifications necessary for the effective implementation of non-formal education programs.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. - The amount needed to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Department of Education appropriated for the non-formal education. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the program and to carry out the purposes of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. Implementing Guidelines. - The Secretary of Education shall issue the necessary guidelines for the immediate and effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days of its approval: *Provided*, however, That such guidelines shall include a proviso on complementation with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) with respect to skills development and with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) on the pre-service education of NFE coordinators and teachers.

The Secretary shall submit to both Committees on Education of the Senate and House of Representatives copies of the implementing rules and guidelines within thirty (30) days after its promulgation.

Any violation of this section shall render the official/s concerned liable under R.A. No. 6713, otherwise known as the "Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees" and other existing administrative and/or criminal laws.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, acts, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions thereof.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,