

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Second Regular Session

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SENATE

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S.B. No. <u>2370</u>

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM INCOME TAXATION THE HONORARIA, ALLOWANCES, AND OTHER FINANCIAL BENEFITS OF TEACHERS RENDERING SERVICE DURING AN ELECTION PERIOD

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Teachers are often said to be the heroes of every elections. They are often called on to be on the frontlines of the polls serving as members of the Board of Election Tellers tasked with operating the vote counting machines and assisting voters on election day.

Unfortunately, elections are prone to incidents of election-related violence and deaths. During the May 9, 2022 national and local elections, the Commission on Elections identified three-hundred (300) areas of concern. The election hotspot list has four categories – red, orange, yellow and green. Each hotspot represents prevalent hazards to the identified areas - red referring to areas in "critical situation", orange have "presence of armed groups and organized movements outside the law", yellow referring to places with "history of political unrest" and Green refers to areas that do not have security concerns and are generally peaceful and orderly. In the same election, about half a million teachers was reported to have volunteered to supervise the polls.

In recognition of the notable service of teachers and considering the hazardous environment they serve in during elections, this bill seeks to exempt from income tax the honoraria, allowances, and other financial benefits given to teachers rendering service during elections.

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

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MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY



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

1 SECTION 1.*Declaration of Policy*. - It is declared the policy of the State 2 topromote and uplift the economic status of teachers and to recognize the public 3 service they render during national andlocalelections.

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5 SEC. 2. *Exemption from Income Tax.* - All honoraria, allowances, and other 6 financial benefits granted to teachers rendering service during an election period 7 shall not be included in the computation of gross income and shall be exempt from 8 income tax.

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10 SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Commissioner of the 11 Bureau of Internal Revenue shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be 12 necessary to implement the provisions of this Act withinsixty (60) days 13 fromitseffectivity.

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15 SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause*. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, or other 16 issuances, or any part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, 17 amended, or modified accordingly.

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19 SEC. 5. *Effectivity Clause*. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days 20 following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general 21 circulation.

Approved,