

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

8 AUG -4 P5:14

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S.B. NO. 2510

Introduced by Senate President Manny Villar

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Teachers play a great role in imparting knowledge, imbuing values, and teaching skills to the country's most valuable asset, the people. Hence, it is important that the teachers' needs and welfare must be given utmost attention.

Republic Act No. 4670, or the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers provides that teaching hours of teachers shall not be more than six hours. Department of Education (DepEd) issued Memorandum 291 s. 2008 allowing teachers to allot six hours for actual classroom teaching a day, with the remaining two hours to be spent in teaching related activities. Thus, teachers are required to render a total of eight hours for the day.


Teachers clamor for higher pay but shorter working hours. Their work schedule leaves them stressed out and exhausted. Reducing their number of working hours will allow them to have more time to innovate and enhance classroom teaching and result to a more productive workforce.

This proposed measure, therefore, seeks to reduce the working hours of all public school teachers, whether engaged in actual classroom teaching or not, to a six-hour workday or a total of thirty-hour workweek. This would be a great relief for the teachers. Any work performed in excess of six hours a day shall be paid an additional compensation of at least twenty-five percent of their regular remuneration.

They shall, therefore, be exempted from the generally established rule on eight-hour workday under the Civil Service Rules. Book V of the Administrative Code of 1987 also states that: "Officers and employees of all departments and agencies except those covered by special laws shall render not less than eight hours of work a day for five days a week or a total of forty-hours a week, exclusive of time for lunch."

To ensure improved working condition for public school teachers and to alleviate their standard of living, there is a need to enact a legislative measure that will grant them a six-hour workday plus additional compensation for work rendered beyond six hours.


In view of the foregoing, approval of this proposed measure is earnestly requested.


MANNY VILLAR
Senate President

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AN ACT
TO PROVIDE A SIX-HOUR WORKDAY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS,
EXEMPTING THEM FROM COMPLIANCE WITH THE EIGHT-HOUR
WORKDAY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the **“Six-Hour Work Day For Public School Teachers Act of 2008.”**

SEC. 2. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the welfare of teachers by improving their working and living conditions. Towards this end, there is a need to provide for a six-hour workday for public school teachers and grant additional compensation for any work rendered beyond six hours to make them more productive and innovative and for a better quality education.

SEC. 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Civil Service laws, rules, regulations and other pertinent laws to the contrary, all public school teachers shall render six hours of work a day or a total of thirty hours work per week.

SEC. 4. In the exigencies of the service, any teacher engaged in actual teaching may be required to render more than six hours of teaching upon payment of additional compensation at the same rate as his regular plus at least twenty-five percent of his basic pay. Teachers who are not engaged in actual teaching but render more than six hours of work shall likewise be entitled to the additional compensation provided in this Section.

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SEC. 5. Notwithstanding provisions of existing law to the contrary, co-curricula, out of school activities and other activities of any teacher outside of their normal duties shall be paid an additional compensation of at least twenty-five percent of his regular remuneration after the teacher has completed at least six hours of work.

SEC. 6. The Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Civil Service Commission (CSC), shall provide the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, no other part, section or provisions thereof shall be affected thereby.

SEC. 8. Sections 13 and 14 of Republic Act No. 4670 or "Magna Carta of Public School Teachers" is hereby repealed. All laws, rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,