

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE

S.B. No. 2068

Introduced by Senator EDGARDO J. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In October, 2003, the President of the Philippines signed into law Republic Act No. 9227, which granted special allowances to the members of the Judiciary equivalent to one hundred percent (100%) of their monthly basic salary, to be implemented on a staggered basis in a span of four (4) years.

Despite the grant of special allowances, however, the justices and Judges still cannot be considered adequately compensated for the sensitive duties and responsibilities that their positions entail. Even if the special allowances will be at a 100% implementation, the income of Justices and Judges will still not be at par with the income of an average law practitioner.

Receiving even lower salaries are the lawyers in the Judiciary who are neither Justices nor Judges. They are placed in a grossly inferior position, as they were left out in R.A. No. 9227.

The low compensation of the members of the Bench and the other lawyers in the Judiciary drives away bright and promising lawyers. Even with the enactment of R.A. No. 9227, filling up of vacancies continues to be a major problem. And, as a necessary consequence, case backlogs continue to soar.


We must face the obvious problem - we need more judges and lawyers in the Judiciary. To entice the good and bright lawyers to these positions, we need to beef up their compensation package.

With the aforementioned premises, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


EDGARDO J. ANGARA

10 JUL 26 1976

SENATE
.S.B. No. 2068

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator EDGARDO J. ANGARA

AN ACT
ADOPTING A SALARY SCHEDULE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE BENCH
AND OTHER LAWYERS IN THE JUDICIARY, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy** - It is hereby declared a policy of the State to
2 adopt effective measures to ensure an independent, responsive and efficient Judiciary,
3 worthy of public trust and confidence. Accordingly, this Act aims to:

- 4 a. Raise the level of competence and ensure the integrity of the Justices,
5 Judges and lawyers in the Judiciary; and improve the compensation
6 system for the members of the Bench, including court personnel, to be
7 able to attract the best and the brightest to the Judiciary.
- 8 b. Improve the compensation system for the members of the Bench,
9 including court personnel, to be able to attract the best and the brightest to
10 the Judiciary.

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12 **SEC. 2. Salary Schedule of the Members of the Bench and the Lawyers in the**
13 **Judiciary.** - All Justices, Judges and lawyers in the Judiciary shall receive the following
14 monthly salaries in accordance with their respective salary grades under Republic Act
15 No. 6758, as amended, otherwise known as the Salary Standardization Law:

Salary Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
23	40,040	41,041	42,067	43,119	44,197	46,302	48,434	47,595
24	41,846	42,867	43,784	44,848	45,969	47,119	48,297	49,504
25	43,840	44,893	45,903	46,940	47,998	49,001	50,226	51,482
26	45,042	46,100	47,322	48,505	49,718	50,961	52,235	53,541

Salary Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
27	46,844	48,016	49,216	50,448	51,707	53,000	54,325	55,683
28	48,718	49,938	51,184	52,464	53,776	55,120	56,488	57,880
29	50,666	51,933	53,231	54,562	55,928	57,324	58,757	60,220
30	52,760	54,041	55,374	56,750	58,160	59,599	61,072	62,577
31	54,950	56,271	57,643	59,067	60,533	62,034	63,571	65,145
32	57,280	58,641	60,078	61,565	63,092	64,662	66,278	67,935

SEC. 3. Coverage. -The salary schedule set forth in Section 2 of this Act shall exclusively pertain to those positions in the Judiciary requiring, as a minimum qualification, admission to the Philippine Bar.

SEC. 4. - Limitations. - Positions in government offices other than the Judiciary that are equal in rank to the above positions, or are given the same rank and privileges of the above positions under existing laws, shall not be covered by the salary schedules provided in Section 2 hereof.

SEC. 5. - Incentive Scheme. - To carry out the declared policy of this Act, the Office of the Court Administrator is hereby authorized, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management, to prepare and adopt an incentive scheme for officers and employees in the Judiciary not otherwise covered by Sections 2 and 3 of this Act.

SEC. 6. Fund Source. - The amounts necessary to carry out initially the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Judiciary; and should such amount be inadequate, the needed balance shall be taken from any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated and partly from the Judiciary Development Fund. Thereafter, such funds as may be needed for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. Implementing Guidelines- The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary guidelines, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management, for the proper implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from approval hereof.

SEC. 8, Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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SEC. 9, *Separability Clause* - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity Clause* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,