

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE]

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES]

First Regular Session]



Senate
Office of the Secretary

16 JUL 28 11:04

SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

S.B. No. 907

Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ALLOWANCE FOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

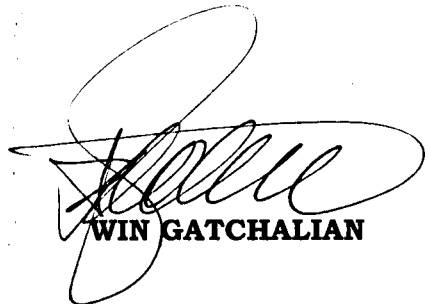
Education has always been considered as one of the pillars of national development. Article XIV Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution states that "[t]he State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all." Furthermore, Section 2 provides that "[the] State shall [e]stablish, maintain, support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of society."

Ensuring quality education for all involves making teaching-learning more effective through instructional materials such as chalk, pens, pencils, erasers, class records, bond paper, art paper, manila paper, and the like. However, despite education being a priority in the budget allocation of the country, teachers still find themselves shelling out their personal money to purchase said instructional materials.

This year, the allowance given to teachers to purchase instructional materials is P1,500 or P7.42 per school day. However, based on the current prices in a leading bookstore, a box of chalk is P28.20 per dozen or almost P2.35 per chalk. Thus, the said allowance is not sufficient to cover the essentials for the efficient functioning of teaching and learning in the classroom every day.

Teachers are the heart of learning. Their role is to help students understand the lessons and concepts in the curriculum through classroom instruction, not to provide for instructional materials. That responsibility rests solely on the State. Thus, it is time to put an end to this long-standing burden imposed upon public school teachers of purchasing instructional materials using their personal money.

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



WIN GATCHALIAN

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Instructional
2 Materials Allowance Act of 2016".

3
4 **SEC 2. Instructional Materials Allowance.** -- A minimum of Three
5 Thousand Pesos (PhP3,000.00) corresponding to an instructional materials
6 allowance is hereby provided to public school teachers of kindergarten and basic
7 education annually. The full amount shall be used exclusively to purchase
8 instructional materials and every teacher shall execute an affidavit to that effect
9 upon receipt of the said allowance.

10
11 For purposes of this Act, "instructional materials" shall refer to items
12 which are used inside the classroom in aid of teaching and are appropriate and

1 useful to the students' learning including but not limited to chalk, pens, pencils,
2 erasers, class records, bond paper, art paper, and manila paper.

3

4 **SEC 3. Periodic Review.** - The instructional materials allowance for
5 public school teachers in this Act shall be subject to a periodic review by the
6 Department of Education (DepEd), taking into account the current prices of
7 classroom supplies, and if warranted, recommend the necessary increase in the
8 amount of the allowance.

9

10 **SEC 4. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary for the implementation
11 of this Act shall be included in the budget of the DepEd in the General
12 Appropriations Act.

13

14 **SEC 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The DepEd shall issue
15 the corresponding rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this
16 Act.

17

18 **SEC 6. Repealing Clause.** - All laws or parts of any law, orders, rules and
19 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or
20 amended accordingly.

21

22 **SEC 7. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15)
23 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers
24 of general circulation.

Approved,