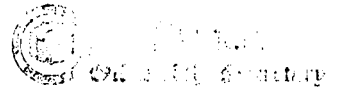


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



'18 MAY 15 P4:12

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SENATE

S.B. No. 1804

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Introduced by Senator **SONNY ANGARA**

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**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF 200 WATTS SOLAR PANELS IN PUBLIC**  
**SCHOOL BUILDINGS WHERE ELECTRICITY IS NOT AVAILABLE**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Several studies have shown how the quality of light in the classroom can enhance the academic performance of children. Unfortunately, there are still public schools in the remote areas of the country that are without electricity. According to the National Electrification Administration (NEA), there are still 14,000 *sitios* without electricity to date. Further, 2015 data reported that more than 7,000 public schools still do not have adequate electricity supply.

In short, we have public school students who—up to this day—still do not enjoy the convenience and benefits of electricity, including well-lit classrooms and the use of computers as tools for learning. This puts them in a clear disadvantage compared to other students living in electrified areas.

This measure aims to address this gap and make available to public schools solar panels that will energize classrooms and hence promote better learning among our schoolchildren. Such initiative will complement the NEA's ongoing electrification program which will eventually include all public classrooms around the country. The end goal is for solar power to become either a primary or alternative power source for all of the country's public classrooms.

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

**SONNY ANGARA**

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AN ACT  
MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF 200 WATTS SOLAR PANELS IN PUBLIC  
SCHOOL BUILDINGS WHERE ELECTRICITY IS NOT AVAILABLE

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

1       **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It shall be the policy of the state to improve  
2 the quality of education in all areas nationwide. When electricity is not available,  
3 support technology for a quality education could not be delivered. The installation of  
4 200 watts solar panels in selected classrooms or facilities will ensure that all schools  
5 nationwide will have power to energize basic teaching tools such as lighting,  
6 computers, printers and other laboratory equipment enabling them to deliver the same  
7 degree of quality teaching as other schools to improve the quality of education.

8       **SEC. 2. Installation of Solar Panels.** – The Department of Education is hereby  
9 mandated to ensure that all public elementary and high school buildings nationwide  
10 which cannot be connected to the grid shall be installed with solar panels with a  
11 capacity of at least 200 watts.

12       The solar panels that will be installed to the school buildings shall include system  
13 components which include but not limited to charge controllers, inverters and batteries  
14 for it generate at least 200 watts of alternating current (AC) at a standard voltage of  
15 220 volts.

1       **SEC. 3. Cooperation.** – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall cooperate  
2 with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Science and Technology  
3 (DOST) to address the technical requirements of implementing the provisions of this  
4 Act.

5       **SEC. 4. Coverage.** – For purposes of implementing the provisions of this Act, the  
6 schools to be installed with 200 watts solar panels shall include the following:

7           a)       Public elementary or high school buildings not smaller than the size of  
8                   three (3) classrooms in barangays where electrical line installation is  
9                   not available; and,

10          b)       School laboratory or educational support facility of any size located in  
11                   barangays where electrical line installation is not available.

12       **SEC. 5. Appropriations.** – The budget necessary for the implementation of this  
13 Act with respect to public schools shall be included in the annual budget of the  
14 DepEd.

15       **SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The DepEd shall issue the  
16 corresponding rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

17       **SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** – All laws and parts of any law, order, rule and  
18 regulation or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended  
19 accordingly.

20       **SEC. 8. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
21 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general  
22 circulation.

*Approved,*