

'18 JUL 16 A10 :52

**SENATE**  
**S. B. No. 1871**

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Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

**AN ACT**  
**PROVIDING FOR A TEACHING SUPPLIES ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Despite their immense importance to the nation's development and well-being, public school teachers are still among the country's grossly undercompensated professionals. On top of daily expenses for themselves and their families, public school teachers are often forced to pay for everyday classroom supplies out of their own pockets.

Traditionally, the government provides classroom teachers with an annual allowance for classroom supplies, popularly known as a "chalk allowance" allotted to purchase classroom essentials such as chalks, erasers, forms and other supplies and materials. In the Department of Education budget for 2011, this cash allowance amounted to ₱700 per teacher per school year, or ₱3.50 per school day. Beginning 2012, this allowance was raised to ₱1,000 per teacher per school year, or ₱4.98 per school day. For 2016, the government allotted ₱1,500 per teacher per school year, or ₱7.43 per school day, and further increased it to ₱2,500 per teacher per school year, or ₱12.25 per school day for 2017. Currently, the 2018 GAA provides for ₱3,500 per teacher per school year, or ₱16.82 per school day.

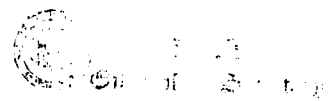
Such meager amount is inadequate for teachers to cover the costs of classroom supplies including pens, pencils, notebooks, class records, manila papers, cartolina, bond paper, art paper, and other materials essential for learning in the classroom. Teachers have no other recourse but to draw from their own finances to pay for these materials.

Hence, the bill proposes to increase the annual "chalk allowance" for classroom supplies from ₱3,500 to ₱5,000 per teacher per school year (or ₱24.04 per school day), thereby relieving teachers of this onerous financial burden.

Immediate approval of this bill is therefore sought.



**SONNY ANGARA**



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

1       Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as the “*Teaching Supplies*  
2       *Allowance Act of 2018.*”

3       Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared to be the policy of the  
4       State to promote and improve the economic status of teachers and assist them in  
5       providing quality education to their students.

6       Sec. 3. *Teaching Supplies Allowance.* – The cash allowance to teachers for the  
7       purchase of chalks, erasers, forms, and other classroom supplies and materials as  
8       provided in the annual appropriations for the Department of Education shall be  
9       known as the Teaching Supplies Allowance. The amount provided shall be increased  
10      from Three Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (₱3,500.00) to Five Thousand Pesos  
11      (₱5,000.00) per teacher per school year. Said allowance shall be paid only to  
12      classroom teachers.

13      Sec. 4. *Periodic Review for Increases.* – The Secretary of Education is hereby  
14      mandated to conduct a periodic review of the Teaching Supplies Allowance, taking  
15      into account the current prices of classroom supplies, and, if warranted, recommend  
16      the necessary increase in the amount of the allowance. The amount required to  
17      cover the increase shall be included in the Department’s budget proposal for the  
18      next fiscal year.

1           Sec. 5. *Appropriations.* – Such sums as may be necessary for the  
2 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations  
3 Act.

4           Sec. 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act take effect fifteen (15) days after it  
5 publication in the Official Gazette or one (1) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,