## EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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#### SENATE S.B. NO. <u>117</u>

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

#### AN ACT

### EXEMPTING FROM INCOME TAX COMPENSATION GIVEN TO TEACHERS FOR SERVING AS MEMBERS OF THE ELECTORAL BOARD FOR NATIONAL OR LOCAL ELECTIONS

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Teachers are often said to be the heroes of every election season. They are often called on to be on the frontlines of the polls serving as members of the Board of Election Tellers (BET) tasked with operating the Vote Counting Machines (VCM) and assisting voters on Election Day.

Unfortunately, the election season is prone to incidents of election-related violence and deaths. During the May 14, 2018 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections, the Philippine National Police (PNP) classified 597 areas in the country as red hotspots, 4,970 as orange hotspots, and 2,071 as yellow hotspots. Each hotspot represent prevalent hazards to the identified areas: red referring to areas in "critical situation", orange have "presence of armed groups and organized movements outside the law", and yellow referring to places with "history of political unrest". In the same election, about half a million teachers was reported to volunteer to supervise the polls.

This Bill seeks to exempt income tax, compensation given to teachers for serving as members of the electoral board for national or local elections, for their notable service and the hazardous environment they serve in during election seasons. In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

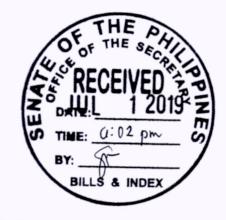
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MARIA LOURDES NAVCY S. BINAY

Senator

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

Section 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is declared the policy of the State to promote and uplift the economic status of teachers and to recognize the public service they are rendering by serving in the Electoral Boards during national and local elections.

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Sec. 2. Section 24 (A)(1)(a) of Republic Act No. 10963 provides that taxable income, as defined for each taxable year from all sources within and without the Philippines by every individual citizen of the Philippines residing therein, shall be subject to income tax if the taxable income is over P250,000.00, Section 32 of the National Internal Revenue Code of the Philippines defines gross income to include compensation for services in whatever from paid, including, but not limited to fees, salaries, wages, commissions, and similar items.

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Sec. 3. All compensation received by teachers for rendering services as part of the Electoral Board for the national or local election shall not be included in the computation of gross income and shall be exempt from income tax.

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Sec. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act with ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act.

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6 Sec. 5. *Separability Clause*. – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or 7 unconstitutional, the other provisions and sections not affected thereby shall 8 remain in full force and effect.

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Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, or issuances, or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

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14 Sec. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days 15 after its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general 16 circulation

Approved,

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