NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

τ



23 NOV 22 P6:45

SENATE

s.в. No.2493

]

]

1

RECEIVED BY:	A
	\bigcirc

Introduced by SENATOR WIN GATCHALIAN

AN ACT

FULFILLING THE RIGHTS AND STRENGTHENING THE PRIVILEGES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4670, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MAGNA CARTA FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS", APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act (RA) No. 4670, otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Public School Teachers" which was signed into law on June 18, 1966. The 57-year old law was enacted to promote and improve the social and economic status of public school teachers, their living and working conditions, their terms of employment and career prospects, it being recognized that advance in education depends on the qualifications and ability of the teaching staff and that education is an essential factor in the economic growth of the nation as a productive investment of vital importance.

The proposed amendments under this bill seek to address old and new challenges faced by public school teachers brought about by the volatility and complexity of the education sector.

To ensure that the State shall respect, promote, and uphold the rights of public school teachers, the bill provides the following substantial amendments: 1) the minimum educational qualifications for a teacherapplicant in kindergarten now includes a degree of Bachelor of Early Childhood Education or its equivalent for pre-school teachers; 2) the salaries, benefits, and conditions of work of probationary teachers shall be the same or not less favorable as those of an entry-level teacher; 3) non-termination of permanent teachers without just cause and due process, and their entitlement to reinstatement and backwages in case of unjust dismissal; 4) non-extendible period of one (1) week from the receipt of appeal, for the Regional Director of the Department of Education (DepEd) to decide on the station transfer of teachers; 5) confidentiality of the disciplinary action against a teacher; 6) partnership between the DepEd and the Public Attorney's Office on the legal services to be extended to teachers facing complaints and lawsuits in relation to their teaching duties and responsibilities; 7) prohibition on discrimination; 8) gender equality; 9) reduction of hours of actual classroom teaching per day from six (6) hours to four (4) hours; 10) prohibition of teachers being assigned to tasks unrelated to teaching; 11) temporary hiring of a substitute teacher when an incumbent teacher is on leave; 12) enhancement of the criteria for salaries; 13) the circumstances and conditions when the provision of special hardship allowances shall be granted; 13) protection of teachers from out-of-pocket expenses; 14) improved working conditions; and 15) grant of calamity leave, educational benefits, and longevity pay, among others.

۲

On September 14, 2020, the Senate Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture filed Proposed Senate Resolution No. 522, which conducted an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the implementation of RA No. 4670 to provide a comprehensive and critical review and identify the gaps, issues, and challenges in advancing the welfare and rights of teachers as professionals and improving the conditions for effective teaching and learning, to craft policy recommendations and initiate complementary and amendatory legislation to further strengthen the law and fulfill the goals enshrined therein.

Four long and intense public hearings were conducted to discuss the said resolution. Based on the findings in the committee report, out of the thirty (30) sections for compliance under RA No. 4670, only seven sections are compliant, 18 sections are partially compliant, three sections are not compliant, and two sections have been superseded by latter laws.

As implementation is at issue, this bill seeks to uphold the rights enshrined under the 57-year old law, with the government fulfilling its duty to ensure that the rights and welfare of our public school teachers are protected, respected, and realized.

In light of the foregoing, I earnestly seek the support of this Congress for the immediate passage of this bill.

in gateh/

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session



23 NOV 22 P6:45

SENATE

]

]

1

s.b. No. <u>2493</u>

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by SENATOR WIN GATCHALIAN

AN ACT

FULFILLING THE RIGHTS AND STRENGTHENING THE PRIVILEGES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4670, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MAGNA CARTA FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS", APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Revised Magna
Carta for Public School Teachers Act."
Sec. 2. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 4670, entitled the "Magna Carta
for Public School Teachers", is hereby amended to read as follows:
"SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared to be
the policy of this Act to promote and improve the social and
economic status of public school teachers, their living and working

conditions, their terms of employment and career prospects in
 order that they may compare favorably with existing opportunities
 in other walks of life, attract and retain in the teaching profession
 more people with the proper qualifications, it being recognized that
 [advance in] A QUALITY education depends on the qualifications

and ability of the teaching staff and that education is an essential
 factor in the economic growth of the nation as a productive
 investment of vital importance.

4 THE STATE SHALL ALSO RESPECT, PROMOTE, PROTECT, 5 AND UPHOLD THE POLITICAL RIGHTS OF TEACHERS, 6 CONSISTENT WITH INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LAWS 7 DECLARING THAT THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS OF 8 PERSONS CAN BE SECURED ONLY THROUGH THE GENUINE 9 OBSERVANCE OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS."

11 Sec. 3. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 12 as follows:

"SEC. 2. [*Title-Definition*] COVERAGE. – This Act [shall be known
as the "Magna Carta for Public School Teachers" and] shall apply
to [all public school] teachers [except those in the professorial staff
of state colleges and universities] IN ALL PUBLIC BASIC
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS.

[As used in this Act, the term "teacher" shall mean all persons 18 engaged in classroom teaching, in any level of instruction, on full-19 time basis, including guidance counselors, school librarians, 20 industrial arts or vocational instructors, and all other persons 21 performing supervisory and/or administrative functions in all 22 schools, colleges and universities operated by the Government or 23 its political subdivisions; but shall not include school nurses, 24 school physicians, school dentists, and other school employees.]" 25

26

r

10

Sec. 4. A new section designated as Section 3 of Republic Act No. 4670
is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. - AS USED IN THIS ACT, THE
 FOLLOWING TERMS ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:
 (A) EXIGENCIES OF THE SERVICE REFER TO SITUATIONS
 WHERE EDUCATION SERVICE IS URGENTLY NEEDED
 AND WHERE ANY DELAY IN ITS EXECUTION AND

1DELIVERY WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT THE EFFECTIVE2AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF THE SERVICE AND ITS3OUTCOME. IN NO CASE SHALL THE EXIGENCIES OF4THE SERVICE BE INVOKED FOR ANY PERSONNEL5ACTION THAT WILL RESULT IN DIMINUTION OF RANK,6STATUS, SALARIES, OR BENEFITS, OR IN ANY MANNER7PREJUDICE A TEACHER.

8 (B) STATION REFERS TO THE SCHOOL WHERE THE 9 TEACHER IS ASSIGNED.

10(C) TEACHER REFERS TO A PERSON QUALIFIED TO11PRACTICE TEACHING UNDER THE LAW AND ENGAGED12IN THE TEACHING OF ANY SUBJECT, INCLUDING13TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING14(TVET), AT THE BASIC EDUCATION LEVEL IN ALL15PUBLIC BASIC EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS.

16

ſ

17 Sec. 5. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 18 as follows:

"SEC. [3] 4. Recruitment and QualificationS. - [Recruitment 19 policy with respect to the selection and appointment of teachers 20 shall be clearly defined by t]The Department of Education (DEPED) 21 SHALL DEFINE THE RECRUITMENT POLICY WITH RESPECT 22 TO THE SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS: 23 Provided, [however,] That [effective upon the approval of this Act,] 24 minimum educational following shall constitute the the 25 qualifications for teacher-applicants: 26

(A) FOR TEACHERS IN KINDERGARTEN, BACHELOR'S
 DEGREE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OR ITS
 EQUIVALENT;

30 [a](B) For teachers in the [kindergarten and] elementary grades,
 31 Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education [(B.S.E.ED.)];

32 [b](C) For teachers [of] IN the secondary [schools] GRADES,
 33 Bachelor's degree in SECONDARY Education or its equivalent

[with a major and a minor;] or a Bachelor's degree in Arts or Science with at least eighteen (18) [professional] units in **PROFESSIONAL** Education[-]; AND

[e](D) For teachers of [secondary vocational] **TVET** and [two years technical] **TWO-YEAR** courses, Bachelor's degree in the field of specialization with at least eighteen (18) [professional] units in **PROFESSIONAL** education[;]:

[(d) For teachers of courses on the collegiate level, other than vocational, master's degree with a specific area of specialization:]

Provided, further, That, in the absence of applicants who possess 10 the minimum educational qualifications as hereinabove provided, 11 the [s]SchoolS DIVISION [s]Superintendent may appoint, under a 12 temporary status, applicants who do not meet the minimum 13 qualifications: Provided, further, That should teacher-applicants, 14 whether they possess the minimum educational qualifications or 15 not, be required to take competitive examinations, preference in 16 making appointments shall be in the order of their respective ranks 17 in said competitive examinations: [And] Provided, finally, That the 18 results of the examinations shall be made public and every 19 applicant shall be furnished with his **OR HER** score and rank in 20 said examinations." 21

22

,

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

23 Sec. 6. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 24 as follows:

"SEC. [4] 5. Probationary Period. - When recruitment takes place 25 after adequate training and professional preparation in any school 26 recognized by the [G]Government, no probationary period 27 preceding regular appointment shall be imposed if the teacher 28 possesses the appropriate civil service eligibility: Provided, 29 however, That where, due to the exigencies of the service, it is 30 necessary to employ as teacher a person who possesses the 31 minimum educational qualifications herein above set forth but 32 lacks the appropriate civil service eligibility, such person shall be 33

appointed on a provisional status and shall undergo a period of 1 probation for not less than one (1) year from and after the date of 2 [his] THE provisional appointment[-]: PROVIDED, FURTHER, 3 THAT THE SALARIES, BENEFITS, AND CONDITIONS OF WORK 4 OF TEACHERS HIRED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE THE 5 SAME OR NOT LESS FAVORABLE AS THOSE OF AN ENTRY-6 THAT THE FINALLY, PROVIDED. **TEACHER:** LEVEL 7 TEMPORARY OR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS 8 UNDER SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF THIS ACT, RESPECTIVELY, 9 MAY BE ALLOWED NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS 10 FOUND UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7836, OTHERWISE KNOWN 11 AS THE "PHILIPPINE TEACHERS PROFESSIONALIZATION ACT 12 OF 1994", AS AMENDED, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, 13 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION 14 ACT OF 2013". 15

16

ſ

17 Sec. 7. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 18 as follows:

"SEC. [5] 6. [*Tenure of Office.*] SECURITY OF TENURE. –
 [Stability on employment and security of tenure] TEACHERS shall
 be assured [the teachers] OF SECURITY OF TENURE as provided
 under existing laws.

Subject to the provisions of Section [three] 4 hereof, teachers appointed on a provisional status for lack of necessary civil service eligibility shall be extended permanent appointment for the position he **OR SHE** is holding after having rendered at least ten (10) years of continuous, efficient and faithful service in such position.

29NO TEACHER HOLDING A PERMANENT POSITION SHALL BE30TERMINATED EXCEPT FOR JUST CAUSE AND AFTER BEING31ACCORDED DUE PROCESS. A TEACHER WHO IS DISMISSED32FROM SERVICE BUT LATER FOUND AS UNJUSTLY DISMISSED33SHALL BE ENTITLED TO REINSTATEMENT AND

1

2

5

6

7

8

9

31

ı

BACKWAGES."

3 Sec. 8. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 4 as follows:

"SEC. [6] 7. [Consent for Transfer Transportation Expenses] **PROCEDURE FOR STATION TRANSFER OF TEACHERS**. – Except for cause and as herein otherwise provided, no teacher shall be transferred without his **OR HER WRITTEN** consent from one station to another.

Where the exigencies of the service require the transfer of a 10 teacher from one station to another, such transfer may be effected 11 by the [s]SchoolS DIVISION [s]Superintendent who shall 12 previously notify the teacher concerned of the transfer and the 13 reason or reasons therefor. If the teacher believes there is no 14 justification for the transfer, he OR SHE may appeal [his case] to 15 the REGIONAL Director [of Public Schools or the Director of 16 Vocational Education, as the case may be] WHO SHALL RENDER 17 A DECISION IN WRITING WITHIN A NON-EXTENDIBLE PERIOD 18 OF ONE (1) WEEK UPON RECEIPT OF THE APPEAL. Pending 19 [his] THE appeal and the decision thereon, [his] THE transfer shall 20 be held in abeyance: Provided, however, That no transfers 21 [whatever] shall be made three (3) months before any local or 22 national election. 23

Necessary transfer expenses of the teacher and his **OR HER** family shall be paid for by the **[G]G**overnment if his **OR HER** transfer is finally approved.

A TEACHER MAY ALSO TRANSFER UPON HIS OR HER 27 AND GROUNDS PURSUANT то WRITTEN REQUEST 28 AND RULES, LAWS, PERTINENT PROCEDURE UNDER 29 **REGULATIONS.**" 30

32 Sec. 9. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
33 as follows:

"SEC. [7] 8. Code of [Professional Conduct] ETHICS for Teachers. 1 - Within six (6) months from the approval of this Act, the [Secretary 2 of Education] DEPED shall formulate and prepare a Code of 3 [Professional Conduct] ETHICS for Public School Teachers, 4 HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE CODE. A copy of the 5 Code shall be furnished each teacher: Provided, however, That 6 where this is not possible by reason of inadequate fiscal resources 7 of the [Department of Education] DEPED, at least three (3) copies 8 of the [same] Code shall be deposited with the office of the school 9 principal or head teacher where they may be accessible for use by 10 the teachers. THE DEPED SHALL ALSO ELECTRONICALLY 11 PUBLISH THE SAME IN ITS OFFICIAL WEBSITE AND MAKE 12 AVAILABLE AND ACCESSIBLE FOR TEACHERS TO VIEW, 13 **READ AND DOWNLOAD.**" 14

ı

15

23

16 Sec. 10. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 17 as follows:

"SEC. [8] 9. Safeguards in Disciplinary Procedure. - Every
teacher shall enjoy equitable safeguards at each stage of any
disciplinary procedure and shall have:

21 [a.] (A) the right to be informed, in writing, of the [charges]
 22 ALLEGATIONS AND THE GROUNDS THEREOF;

[b.] (**B**) the right to full access to the evidence in the case;

[e-] (C) the right to defend himself OR HERSELF and to be
defended by a representative of his OR HER choice, and [/or] by
his OR HER [organization,] UNION OR, IN THE ABSENCE
THEREOF, ORGANIZATION, WITH adequate time being given to
the teacher for the preparation of his OR HER defense; and

[d.] (D) the right to [appeal to clearly designated authorities.] BE
 INFORMED IN WRITING OF THE DECISION AND THE
 REASONS THEREOF; AND

32 (E) THE RIGHT TO APPEAL TO CLEARLY DESIGNATED
 33 COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OR BODIES."

 $\mathbf{7}$

[No-publicity-shall-be-given to any disciplinary action being taken against a teacher during the pendency of his case].

ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION BEING TAKEN AGAINST A TEACHER DURING THE PENDENCY OF HIS OR HER CASE SHALL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL. THE RIGHT OF TEACHERS TO THE PRIVACY OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT OR SERVICE RECORDS SHALL BE OBSERVED EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER EXISTING LAWS.

THE DEPED SHALL ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH 9 THE PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR LEGAL SERVICES TO 10 BE EXTENDED TO TEACHERS FACING COMPLAINTS AND 11 LAWSUITS IN RELATION TO THE PERFORMANCE AND 12 AND DUTIES TEACHING THEIR OF CONDUCT 13 **RESPONSIBILITIES.**" 14

15

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

16 Sec. 11. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby deleted and 17 replaced with a new section to read as follows:

"SEC. [9] 10. [Administrative Charges. Administrative charges 18 against a teacher shall be heard initially by a committee composed 19 of the corresponding School Superintendent of the Division or a 20 duly authorized representative who should at least have the rank 21 of a division supervisor, where the teacher belongs, as chairman, 22 a representative of the local or, in its absence, any existing 23 provincial or national teachers' organization and a supervisor of 24 the Division, the last two to be designated by the Director of Public 25 Schools. The committee shall submit its findings and 26 recommendations to the Director of Public Schools within thirty 27 days from the termination of the hearings: Provided, however, That 28 where the school superintendent is the complainant or an 29 interested party, all the members of the committee shall be 30 appointed by the Secretary of Education.] PROHIBITION ON 31 BE NOT SHALL TEACHER Α DISCRIMINATION. 32 DISCRIMINATED AGAINST WITH REGARD TO GROUNDS SUCH 33

AS SEX, CIVIL STATUS, CREED, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL 1 AFFILIATION. **ETHNIC GROUPINGS.** 2 BELIEF OR OR ANALOGOUS REASONS. THERE SHALL BE NO 3 DISCRIMINATION WHATSOEVER IN THE ENTRANCE TO THE 4 5 TEACHING PROFESSION, OR DURING ITS EXERCISE, OR IN THE TERMINATION OF SERVICES BASED ON ANY GROUND 6 PROFESSIONAL CONSIDERATION. OTHER THAN 7 EXPRESSION AND EXERCISE OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF AND 8 PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES BY TEACHERS SHALL BE 9 **REGULATED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.** 10

TO ELIMINATE ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST 11 TEACHERS, THE STATE SHALL PURSUE INITIATIVES AND 12 **PROGRAMS THAT SEEK TO ENABLE AN ENVIRONMENT FREE** 13 OF STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION. THE STATE SHALL 14 DIRECT ITS MACHINERY AND RESOURCES TO PROMOTE 15 NON-DISCRIMINATION AND SHALL ENCOURAGE OTHER 16 SECTORS OF THE SOCIETY TO ENGAGE AND PARTICIPATE IN 17 **THESE EFFORTS.**" 18

19

20 Sec. 12. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby deleted and 21 replaced with a new section to read as follows:

"SEC. [10] 11. [No Discrimination. There shall be no discrimination whatsoever in entrance to the teaching profession, or during its exercise, or in the termination of services, based on other than professional consideration.] GENDER EQUALITY. THE STATE, THE SCHOOL, AND THE DEPED LEADERSHIP SHALL ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ALL TEACHERS."

29

30 Sec. 13. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
31 as follows:

32 "SEC. [11] 12. Married Teachers. - [Whenever possible,] [t]The
 33 proper authorities shall take all steps to enable married couples,

- both of whom are **[public school]** teachers, to be employed in the same locality."
- 2 3

1

4 Sec. 14. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 5 as follows:

6 "SEC. [12] 13. Academic Freedom. – Teachers shall enjoy
7 academic freedom in the discharge of their professional duties,
8 particularly with regard to teaching and classroom methods,
9 SUBJECT TO STANDARDS SET BY THE DEPED FOR THE K TO
10 12 BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM."

11

12 Sec. 15. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 13 as follows:

"SEC. [13] 14. Teaching Hours. - [Any] NO teacher engaged in 14 actual classroom instruction shall [not] be required to render more 15 than [six] FOUR (4) hours of actual classroom teaching a day, 16 which shall be so scheduled as to give him OR HER time for the 17 preparation and correction of exercises and other work incidental 18 to his OR HER normal teaching duties: Provided, however, That 19 where the exigencies of the service so require, [any] A teacher may 20 be required to render more than [six] FOUR (4) hours but not 21 exceeding eight (8) hours of actual classroom teaching a day upon 22 payment of additional compensation at the same rate as his OR 23 HER regular remuneration plus at least twenty-five [per-cent] 24 PERCENT (25%) of his OR HER basic pay." 25

26

27 Sec. 16. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 28 as follows:

"SEC. [14] 15. Additional Compensation. – Notwithstanding any
provision of existing law to the contrary, co-curriculaR, [and out of
school] OUT-OF-SCHOOL activities, and any other activities
outside of what is defined as normal duties of any teacher shall be
paid an additional compensation of at least twenty-five [per-cent]

PERCENT (25%) of his OR HER regular remuneration after the
 teacher has completed at least [six] FOUR (4) hours of actual
 classroom teaching a day.

[In the case of other teachers or school officials not engaged in actual classroom instruction, any work performed in excess of eight hours a day shall be paid an additional compensation of at least twenty five per cent of their regular remuneration.]

8 The agencies utilizing the services of teachers shall pay the 9 additional compensation required under this section. [Education 10 authorities] THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPED shall refuse to 11 allow the rendition of services of teachers for other government 12 agencies without the assurance that the teachers shall be paid the 13 remuneration provided for under this section.

14THIS SECTION SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO LAWS,15RULES, AND REGULATIONS PROVIDING FOR HIGHER16COMPENSATION OR FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE OF17TEACHERS."

18

4

5

6

7

Sec. 17. A new section designated as Section 16 of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 16. PROHIBITION ON ASSIGNMENT TO TASKS 21 UNRELATED TO TEACHING. - NO TEACHER SHALL BE 22 UNRELATED TO ACTIVITIES OR TASKS ASSIGNED 23 TEACHING, EXCEPT AS MAY BE PROVIDED BY LAW. FOR 24 THIS PURPOSE, THE DEPED SHALL FILL UP ALL NON-25 TEACHING POSITIONS AND, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE 26 DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, ENDEAVOR 27 TO MEET IDEAL RATIOS BETWEEN TEACHING AND NON-28 **TEACHING POSITIONS.**" 29

30

31 Sec. 18. A new section designated as Section 17 of Republic Act No.
32 4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

33 "SECTION 17. SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS. - WHEN AN

1INCUMBENT TEACHER IS ON MATERNITY, PATERNITY,2PARENTAL, STUDY, OR EXTENDED LEAVE, THE DEPED MAY3HIRE A TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT FOR THE DURATION OF4SAID LEAVE. THE SUBSTITUTE MUST BE QUALIFIED FOR AT5LEAST A TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT."

6

Sec. 19. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
as follows:

9 "SEC. [15] 18. Criteria for Salaries. – [Teachers' salaries] THE 10 SALARY OF TEACHERS shall correspond to the following criteria:

11(A) REFLECT THE IMPORTANCE TO SOCIETY OF THE12TEACHING FUNCTION AND, HENCE, THE IMPORTANCE OF13TEACHERS AS WELL AS THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FROM14THE TIME OF ENTRY INTO THE SERVICE;

[(a)](B) [they shall] compare favorably with those paid in other
 occupations requiring equivalent or similar qualifications, training
 and abilities;

[(b)](C) [they shall be such as to i]Ensure teachers a reasonable
 AND DECENT standard of life for themselves and their families;
 and

[(c)](D) [they shall be properly] graded PROPERLY [so as] to 21 the fact that certain positions require higher 22 recognize qualifications and greater responsibility than others: Provided, 23 however, That the general salary scale shall REFLECT [be-such 24 that] the relation between the lowest and highest salaries paid in 25 the profession [will] TO be of reasonable order. Narrowing the 26 salary scale shall be achieved by raising the lower end of the salary 27 scales relative to the upper end." 28

29

30 Sec. 20. Section 16 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 31 as follows:

32 "SEC. [16] 19. Salary Scale. – Salary scales of teachers shall
 33 provide for a gradual progression from a minimum to a maximum

salary by means of regular increments, granted automatically after
three (3) years: *Provided*, That the efficiency rating of the teacher
concerned is at least satisfactory. [The progression from the
minimum to the maximum of the salary scale shall not extend over
a period of ten years.]"

6

4

Sec. 21. Section 17 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
as follows:

9 "SEC. [17] 20. Equality in Salary Scales AND BENEFITS. – The 10 salary scales AND BENEFITS of teachers whose salaries are 11 [appropriated] PAID by a city, municipal, municipal district, or 12 provincial government, shall not be less than those provided for 13 teachers [of the] EMPLOYED BY THE [N]National [G]Government."

14

Sec. 22. Section 18 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to readas follows:

"SEC. [18] 21. Cost of Living Allowance. – [Teachers' salaries] 17 THE SALARY OF TEACHERS shall, at the very least, keep pace 18 with the rise in the cost of living by the payment of a [cost of living] 19 cost of living allowance (COLA) which shall automatically follow 20 changes in a cost of living index. The Secretary of [Education] THE 21 **DEPED** shall, in consultation with the proper government entities, 22 recommend to Congress, at least annually, the appropriation of the 23 necessary funds for the [cost of living allowances] COLA of 24 teachers employed by the [N]National [G]Government. The 25 determination of the [cost of living allowances] COLA by the 26 Secretary of [Education] THE DEPED shall, upon approval of the 27 President of the Philippines, be binding on the city, municipal or 28 provincial government, for the purposes of calculating the [cost of-29 living allowances] COLA of teachers under its employ." 30

31

32 Sec. 23. Section 19 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
33 as follows:

"SEC. [19] **22**. Special Hardship Allowances. – [In areas in which] 1 [t]Teachers [are] exposed to hardship, PERIL, [such as] OR 2 **EXTREME** difficulty in [commuting to] the place of work, [or other 3 hazards peculiar to the place of employment, as determined by the 4 Secretary of Education, they shall be compensated special 5 hardship allowances equivalent to at least twenty five per cent of 6 their monthly salary.] TEACHERS ASSIGNED TO HANDLE 7 TEACHERS. AND MOBILE CLASSES, **MULTI-GRADE** 8 ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM COORDINATORS SHALL 9 BE COMPENSATED WITH SPECIAL HARDSHIP ALLOWANCES 10 BASED ON THE CRITERIA PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPED: 11 PROVIDED, THAT PRIORITY SHALL BE GIVEN TO TEACHERS 12 ASSIGNED TO HARDSHIP POSTS CHARACTERIZED BY 13 HAZARDS TO LIFE AND HEALTH, A STATE OF CALAMITY, 14 HOSTILITIES BETWEEN AND AMONG ARMED ELEMENTS, 15 TRANSPORT INACCESSIBILITY OR INCONVENIENCE, AND 16 OTHER HAZARDS PECULIAR TO THE PLACE OF ENJOYMENT: 17 PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF 18 ALLOWANCE TO BE GIVEN TO SAID TEACHERS SHALL NOT 19 EXCEED TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) OF THEIR TOTAL 20 BASIC SALARY FOR THE YEAR." 21

22

Sec. 24. A new section designated as Section 23 of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 23. PROTECTION FROM OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES. 25 - NO TEACHER SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PAY OUT OF THEIR 26 FACILITIES, MATERIALS, FOR PERSONAL FINANCES 27 SERVICES, OR ANY OTHER OBJECTS OR ACTIVITIES 28 NECESSARY AND RELATED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF 29 THEIR DUTIES." 30

31

32 Sec. 25. Section 20 of Republic Act No. 4670 shall be renumbered as
33 Section 24.

1 Sec. 26. Section 21 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 2 as follows:

"SEC. [21] 25. PROHIBITION ON Deductions [Prohibited]. - No 3 person shall make any deduction whatsoever from the salaries of 4 teachers except under specific authority of law authorizing such 5 deductions: Provided, however, That upon written authority 6 executed by the teacher concerned, [(1)] lawful dues and fees owing 7 TO UNIONS OF TEACHERS AND [to] the Philippine Public School 8 Teachers Association, and [(2)] premiums properly due on 9 insurance policies, shall be considered deductible[]: PROVIDED, 10 UNDER THE SALARY THAT DEDUCTIONS FURTHER, 11 DEDUCTION SCHEME SHALL NOT BE CHARGED WITH 12 **COMPOUNDED INTERESTS AND PENALTIES.**" 13

Sec. 27. A new subtitle designated as Subtitle IV of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

17 18

14

.

"IV. WORKING CONDITIONS"

Sec. 28. A new section designated as Section 26 of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

GUARANTEE OF CONDUCIVE WORKING "SEC. 26. 21 CONDITIONS FOR TEACHERS. - THE STATE SHALL ENSURE 22 THAT TEACHERS HAVE HUMANE WORKING CONDITIONS IN 23 THEIR PLACES OF ASSIGNMENT. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE 24 DEPED SHALL PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN ADEQUATE SPACE, 25 VENTILATION, LIGHTING, AND SECURITY CONDITIONS IN 26 PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO FOSTER A CONDUCIVE ENVIRONMENT 27 FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING. SPACES MUST LIKEWISE 28 ABIDE WITH MINIMUM HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS, 29 **MEDICALLY-PROVEN** AND WITH PROVIDED BE AND 30 SCIENTIFICALLY-PROVEN TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT THAT AIM 31 TO MINIMIZE RISK OF EXPOSURE." 32

33

Sec. 29. A new section designated as Section 27 of Republic Act No.
 4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

UNDERSTAFFING AND PROHIBITION ON 27. "SEC. 3 UNDERSTAFFING AND TEACHERS. _ **OVERLOADING** 4 OVERLOADING OF TEACHERS SHALL BE PROHIBITED. 5 TEACHER-TO-LEARNER RATIOS SHALL BE REASONABLY 6 EFFECTED TO SUSTAIN DELIVERY OF QUALITY EDUCATION 7 AT ALL TIMES WITHOUT OVERWORKING THE TEACHER AND 8 OVEREXTENDING HIS OR HER DUTY AND SERVICE." 9

10

Sec. 30. A new section designated as Section 28 of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 28. PROTECTION FROM UNREGULATED CLASS SIZES. 13 - TEACHERS ARE ENTITLED TO PROTECTION FROM 14 TO AS WELL AS SIZES CLASS **UNMANAGEABLE** 15 ACTUAL THEIR COMMENSURATE TO COMPENSATION 16 WORKLOAD. THE DEPED SHALL DETERMINE THE STANDARD 17 CLASS SIZE FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH 18 INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND THE CORRESPONDING 19 HONORARIUM FOR TEACHERS HANDLING LARGE CLASSES." 20

21

Sec. 31. A new section designated as Section 29 of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 29. TEACHER'S PROTECTION. - THE DEPED SHALL 24 MECHANISMS AND SUPPORT INSTITUTIONALIZE 25 PROTECTION FOR TEACHERS IN MATTERS OF LEARNER 26 DISCIPLINE OR CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT, THEREBY 27 FOSTERING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE AND SAFE 28 INSTRUCTION AND CONDUCIVE TO ENVIRONMENT 29 LEARNING. THE DEPED SHALL PROMULGATE RULES ON 30 PERMISSIBLE, APPROPRIATE, AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSES 31 AND INTERVENTIONS THAT WILL ADDRESS VIOLATIONS OF 32 SCHOOL RULES AND REGULATIONS, AMONG OTHERS. 33

1ANY ACT COMMITTED BY A TEACHER ACCORDING TO THE2DISCIPLINARY RULES AND PROCEDURES ISSUED BY THE3DEPED SHALL NOT BE DEEMED AS CHILD ABUSE, CRUELTY,4OR EXPLOITATION AS DEFINED IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610,5OR THE "SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST6ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION ACT."

- 8 Sec. 32. Subtitle IV of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 9 as follows:
- 10

7

1

- "[\mathbf{W} .] **V**. HEALTH MEASURES AND INJURY BENEFITS"
- 11

Sec. 33. Section 22 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to readas follows:

Medical Examination and Treatment. – **30**. "SEC. [22]14 Compulsory medical examination shall be provided free-of-charge 15 for all teachers before they take up teaching, and shall be repeated 16 not less than once a year during the teacher's professional life. 17 Where medical examination, INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH 18 and/or treatment medical that show**S** EXAMINATION, 19 hospitalization is necessary, THE same shall be provided free by 20 the government [entity paying the salary of the teachers]. 21

In regions where there is scarcity of medical facilities, teachers may obtain elsewhere the necessary medical care with the right to be reimbursed for their travelling expenses by the [government entity concerned in the first paragraph of this Section] **DEPED**."

26

27 Sec. 34. Section 23 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 28 as follows:

"SEC. [23] 31. Compensation [F]For Injuries. – Teachers shall be
 protected against the consequences of employment injuries in
 accordance with existing laws. The effects of the physical and
 [nervous] MENTAL strain on [the teacher's] THE health AND
 WELL-BEING OF TEACHERS shall be recognized as a

1	compensable occupational disease in accordance with existing
2	laws."
3	
4	Sec. 35. Subtitle V of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
5	as follows:
6	"[V.]VI. LEAVE, [AND] RETIREMENT, AND OTHER BENEFITS AND
7	PRIVILEGES"
8	
9	Sec. 36. Section 24 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
10	as follows:
11	"SEC. [24] 32. Study Leave. – In addition to the leave privileges
12	now enjoyed by teachers in the public schools, they shall be
13	entitled to study leave not exceeding one (1) school year after
14	[seven] THREE (3) years of service TO PURSUE GRADUATE
15	STUDIES IN EDUCATION OR ALLIED COURSES. [Such leave
16	shall be granted in accordance with a schedule set by the
17	Department of Education.] During the period of such leave, the
18	teachers shall be entitled to at least [sixty per cent] EIGHTY
19	PERCENT (80%) of their monthly salary: Provided, however, That
20	no teacher shall be allowed to accumulate more than one (1) year
21	OF study leave, unless he OR SHE needs an additional semester
22	to finish his OR HER thesis for a graduate study in education or
23	ANY allied courses: Provided, further, That [no compensation shall
24	be due the teacher after the first-year of such leave. In all cases,
25	the study leave period shall be counted for seniority and pension
26	purposes] TO AVAIL OF THE BENEFITS HEREIN PROVIDED,
27	THE TEACHER SHALL ENTER INTO AN UNDERTAKING TO
28	CONTINUE RENDERING SERVICES IN THE INSTITUTION WITH
29	WHICH HE OR SHE IS CONNECTED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE
30	(3) YEARS FOR EVERY YEAR OF STUDY LEAVE. IN ALL CASES,
31	THE STUDY LEAVE SHALL BE COUNTED FOR SENIORITY AND
32	PENSION PURPOSES.
33	The compensation allowed for one (1) year OF study leave as

1 e - E

herein provided shall be subject to the condition that the teacher
takes the regular study load and passes at least seventy-five [per
cent] PERCENT (75%) of his OR HER course[s]. Study leave of
more than one (1) year may be permitted by the Secretary of
[Education] THE DEPED but without compensation."

6

2 e . e

Sec. 37. Section 25 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
as follows:

9 "SEC. [25] 33. Indefinite SICK Leave. - An indefinite sick leave
10 of absence shall be granted to teachers when the nature of the
11 illness demands a long treatment that will exceed AT LEAST one
12 (1) year [at the least]."

13

Sec. 38. A new section designated as Section 34 of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 34. CALAMITY LEAVE. - TEACHERS AFFECTED BY 16 NATURAL CALAMITY OR DISASTER SHALL BE ENTITLED TO 17 FIVE (5) DAYS SPECIAL EMERGENCY LEAVE WITH PAY. THE 18 BENEFIT SHALL BE AVAILABLE UPON THE DECLARATION OF 19 A STATE OF CALAMITY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE 20 PHILIPPINES OR BY THE LOCAL SANGGUNIAN PURSUANT TO 21SECTION 16 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121, OR THE 22 REDUCTION AND DISASTER RISK **"PHILIPPINE** 23 MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2010". HOWEVER, IN CASE A 24 SPECIFIC AREA WAS NOT DECLARED UNDER A STATE OF 25 CALAMITY BUT WAS NONETHELESS SEVERELY AFFECTED 26 BY A NATURAL CALAMITY OR DISASTER, THE SCHOOLS 27DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT, IN THE EXERCISE OF HIS OR 28 HER SOUND DISCRETION, MAY GRANT THE SPECIAL 29 EMERGENCY LEAVE TO AFFECTED TEACHERS BASED ON 30 PROOF OF EVIDENCE PRESENTED OR NEWS ACCOUNT. 31

32THE SPECIAL EMERGENCY LEAVE CAN BE APPLIED FOR33FIVE (5) STRAIGHT WORKING DAYS OR ON STAGGERED

BASIS AND WILL NOT BE DEDUCTED FROM THE TEACHER'S LEAVE CREDITS. THIS LEAVE MAY BE AVAILED OF BY TEACHERS WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS FROM THE DATE WHEN THE NATURAL CALAMITY OR DISASTER OCCURRED."

a . . .

1

2

3

4

5

14

23

26

30

6 Sec. 39. A new section designated as Section 35 of Republic Act No.
7 4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

8 "SEC. 35. LONGEVITY PAY. - ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO
9 THE CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING, A LONGEVITY PAY
10 EQUIVALENT TO TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THEIR MONTHLY
11 BASIC PAY SHALL BE PAID TO TEACHERS FOR EVERY FIVE
12 (5) YEARS OF CONTINUOUS, EFFICIENT, AND MERITORIOUS
13 SERVICE."

15 Sec. 40. Section 26 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 16 as follows:

"SEC. [26] 36. Salary Increase upon Retirement. - [Public school]
[t]Teachers WHO [having] HAVE fulfilled the age and service
requirements of the applicable retirement laws shall be given one
(1) range salary raise upon retirement, which shall be the basis of
the computation of the lump sum of the retirement pay and the
monthly benefits thereafter."

24 Sec. 41. Subtitle VI of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 25 as follows:

"[VI.] VII. TEACHERS' ORGANIZATION"

Sec. 42. Section 27 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby renumbered as
Section 37.

Sec. 43. Section 28 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
as follows:

33 "SEC. [28] 38. PROHIBITION ON Discrimination Against

Teachers [*Prohibited*]. – The rights established in the immediately preceding [S]Section shall be exercised without any interference or coercion. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any acts of discrimination against teachers which are calculated to:

5 6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1

2

3

4

4 1 1 2

(a) make the employment of a teacher subject to the condition that he **OR SHE** shall not join an organization, or shall relinquish membership in an organization[,];

(b) [to] cause the dismissal [of] or otherwise prejudice a teacher by reason of his **OR HER** membership in an organization or because of participation in [organization] activities outside school hours, or with the consent of the proper school authorities[$_{7}$] within school hours[$_{7}$]; and

(c) [to] prevent [him] A TEACHER from carrying out the duties
laid upon him OR HER by REASON OF his OR HER position in
the organization, or to penalize him OR HER for an action
undertaken in that capacity."

17

18 Sec. 44. Section 29 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 19 as follows:

"SEC. [29] 39. National Teachers' Organizations. - National
 teachers' organizations shall be consulted in the formulation of
 national educational policies and professional standards, and in
 the formulation of national policies governing the social security of
 the teachers.

UNIONS OF SCHOOL TEACHERS WHICH ARE GRANTED THE 25 STATUS AS SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE NEGOTIATING AGENT 26 (SENA) SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO REPRESENT ALL 27 TEACHERS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE NEGOTIATING UNITS IN 28 WITH THE DEPED FOR AND TERMS **NEGOTIATIONS** 29 **IMPROVEMENTS** OR EMPLOYMENT OF CONDITIONS 30 THEREOF, EXCEPT THOSE THAT ARE FIXED BY LAW. FOR 31 PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, THE SENA REFERS TO ANY 32 **REGISTERED EMPLOYEES' ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS BEEN** 33

ACCREDITED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION AS THE NEGOTIATING AGENT OF ALL TEACHERS IN A GIVEN NEGOTIATING UNIT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS PERTINENT RULES AND REGULATIONS.

5 THE DEPED SHALL ACCORD THE SENA, AS WELL AS ITS 6 OFFICERS AND MEMBERS, ALL RIGHTS AND BENEFITS 7 NECESSARY AND PERTINENT TO THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS 8 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS, SUCH AS REPRESENTATION OF 9 TEACHERS IN ALL BODIES FOR POLICY-MAKING AND 10 TRIBUNALS FOR THE DISCIPLINE OF TEACHERS, AMONG 11 OTHERS."

- 13 Sec. 45. Subtitle VII of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to 14 read as follows:
- 15

12

* 2 3 P

1

2

3

4

"[VII.]VIII. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT"

16

Sec. 46. A new section designated as Section 40 of Republic Act No.
4670 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SECTION 40. RIGHTS AND BENEFITS OF TEACHERS 19 UNDER OTHER LAWS. - A TEACHER SHALL BE ACCORDED 20 BENEFITS UNDER OTHER LAWS. RIGHTS AND THE 21 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED, TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9710 22 OR "THE MAGNA CARTA OF WOMEN", REPUBLIC ACT NO. 23 9262 OR THE "ANTI-VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR 24 CHILDREN ACT", AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8972 OR THE 25 "SOLO PARENTS' WELFARE ACT OF 2000", AS APPLICABLE." 26

27

28 Sec. 47. Section 30 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 29 as follows:

Section [30] 41. IMPLEMENTING Rules and Regulations. –
 WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS
 ACT, [T]The [Secretary of Education] DEPED shall [formulate and
 prepare the necessary] ISSUE THE rules and regulations [to

implement the] IMPLEMENTING ITS provisions [of this Act. Rules
 and regulations issued pursuant to this Section shall take effect
 thirty days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation
 and by such other means as the Secretary of Education deems
 reasonably sufficient to give interested parties general notice of
 such issuance]."

8 Sec. 48. Section 31 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read 9 as follows:

"Section [31] 42. Budgetary Estimates. - The Secretary of 10 [Education] THE DEPED shall submit to Congress annually the 11 necessary budgetary estimates to implement the provisions of [the] 12 THIS Act concerning the MONETARY AND NON-MONETARY 13 benefits herein granted to [public school] teachers under the 14 employ of the [N]National [G]Government. THE DUTY TO 15 PRESENT THE ANNUAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 16 BENEFITS UNDER THIS ACT SHALL BE DISTINCT FROM THE 17 PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET OF THE DEPED AND THUS 18 MAY BE FULFILLED DURING OR BEFORE DELIBERATIONS 19 FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS." 20

21

* * , *

7

Sec. 49. Section 32 of Republic Act No. 4670 is hereby amended to read
as follows:

"Section [32] 43. Penal Provisions. - A person who shall willfully 24 interfere with, restrain or coerce any teacher in the exercise of his 25 OR HER rights OR THE RIGHTS OF TEACHERS' UNIONS AND 26 **ORGANIZATIONS** guaranteed by this Act, or who shall in any 27 other manner commit any act to defeat any of the provisions of this 28 Act shall, upon conviction, be punished by IMPRISONMENT OF 29 NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS, OR a fine of not less than one 30 hundred THOUSAND pesos (P100,000.00) BUT nor more than 31 [one] TWO HUNDRED thousand pesos (P200,000.00), OR BOTH, 32 [or by imprisonment, in] **AT** the discretion of the court. 33

1If the offender is a public official, the court shall order his OR2HER dismissal WITH PERPETUAL DISQUALIFICATION from3[the] [G]Government service. THIS PROVISION SHALL COVER4THE ISSUANCE OF RULES CONTRARY TO THIS ACT OR5WHICH LEAD TO THE DEFEAT OR DIMINUTION OF RIGHTS6AND BENEFITS PROVIDED THEREIN.

THE LIABILITIES UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LIABILITIES AND OTHER PENAL LIABILITIES UNDER OTHER APPROPRIATE LAWS."

10 11

7

8

9

1 . . .

Sec. 50. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is held invalid
or unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force
and effect.

15

16 Sec. 51. *Repealing Clause*. – All other laws, executive orders, presidential 17 decrees, administrative orders, rules and regulations, issuances, or parts 18 thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby 19 repealed or amended accordingly.

20

Sec. 52. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,