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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )
First Regular Session )

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SENATE

MICENTED BY: .... January and

S. BILL NO. 756

**Introduced By Senator Antonio F. Trillanes IV** 

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The 1987 Constitution expressly provides that: "The State shall assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through adequate remuneration and other means of job satisfaction and fulfillment<sup>1</sup>."

Public school teachers are among the most underpaid and/or overworked professionals in our society today. Despite the fact that they are looked upon and heralded as molders of our the youth, public school teachers receive a basic salary of around eight thousand six hundred pesos (P8,600.00) only. Yet our teachers are considered to be the prime movers of the education system. Clearly, the State urgently needs to give priority to their interest and welfare, as expressly mandated by the 1987 Constitution.

To give meaning to the spirit and intent of the above mentioned constitutional provisions, there is an imperative and indispensable necessity to upgrade the salary grade of our public school teachers.

The immediate approval of this bill is, therefore, earnestly requested.

ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 5 (5), Article XIV [Education], 1987 Constitution.

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SENATE

HECEIVED BY: Journal of the second

**S.** BILL NO. <u>756</u>

**Introduced By Senator Antonio F. Trillanes IV** 

## **AN ACT**

INCREASING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM SALARY GRADE 10 TO 20 AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. Increase in the Minimum Salary Grade Level. The present minimum salary grade level of public school teachers in
the elementary and secondary schools shall be upgraded from Grade
10 to Grade 20; Provided, however, that the salary upgrading shall be
differentiated in accordance with the qualifications and length of
service rendered by teachers and shall not be prejudiced by across the
board adjustments.

- **SEC. 2.** <u>Priority in Budget Allocation.</u> The National Government shall appropriate such amount as may be necessary to carry out the objectives of this Act. *Provided,* that the salary increase of public school teachers shall take priority over other non-educational and non-agricultural budgetary allocations.
- SEC. 3. <u>Budget Required</u>. The Department of Education (DepEd) shall immediately come up with the specific programmed budget needed to cover the expenses for the upgrading in salary levels for all the corresponding teacher plantilla positions over a period of three (3) years to allow the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) make the necessary budgetary adjustments to facilitate the smooth implementation of this Act.
- **SEC. 4.** <u>Appropriations.</u> The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act for the year following the approval of this Act.

- **SEC. 5.** Rules and Regulations. The DepEd and the DBM shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.
- **SEC. 6.** Repealing Clause. All provisions of laws, orders, decrees, as well as rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.
- **SEC. 7.** <u>Separability Clause.</u> If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, remaining parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.
- **SEC. 8.** <u>Effectivity</u>. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,