

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 474

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by **ACT Teachers Party-List**
Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO and **Rep. FRANCISCA L. CASTRO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Public school teachers are among the lowest paid professionals in our society. In spite of this, they 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 P700 per teacher per school year, or P3.50 per school day (given 203 school days for SY 2010-2011). Beginning 2012, this allowance was raised to P1,000 per teacher per school year, or P4.98 per school day (given an average of 201 school days since SY 2011-2012). The 2016 budget allotted P1,500 per teacher per school year, or P7.43 per school day (202 school days for SY 2016-2017).

Such a meager amount is not enough to cover the costs of supplies including pens, pencils, notebooks, class records, manila paper, cartolina, bond paper, art paper, and others, that are essential for the daily functioning of teaching and learning in the classroom. With the imposition and half-baked implementation of the insufficiently funded K to 12 Program, public schools were not given enough number of copies of

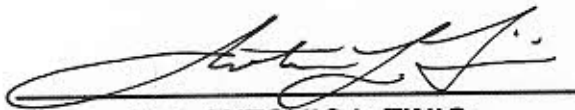
teachers' guides and learners' materials to be used in adopting the new curriculum.

Hence, teachers must draw from their own finances to pay for these materials which, in the first place, should be provided by the government.

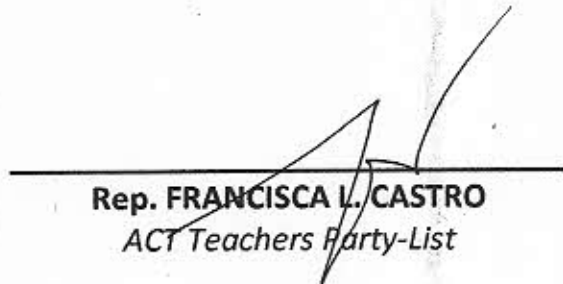
This bill proposes to increase the annual allowance for classroom supplies from P1,500 to P5,000 (or P24.75 per day), thereby relieving teachers of this onerous financial burden.

This was approved by the Committee on Basic Education during the 16th Congress.

Immediate approval of this bill is therefore sought.



Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO
ACT Teachers Party-List



Rep. FRANCISCA L. CASTRO
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Introduced by **ACT Teachers Party-List**
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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A TEACHING SUPPLIES ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Title. This Act shall be known and cited as the **"Teaching Supplies Allowance Act of 2016."**

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

SECTION 3. Teaching Supplies Allowance. The cash allowance to teachers for the purchase of chinks, erasers, forms, and other classroom supplies and materials as provided in the annual appropriations for the Department of Education shall be known as the Teaching Supplies Allowance. The amount provided shall be increased from One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00) to Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) per teacher per school year. Said allowance shall be paid only to classroom teachers.

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

SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* Such sums as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or one (1) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,