

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1752



Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The glaring truth is — the state of public education in the Philippines is grim and subpar compared with most of our neighbors in Asia, and especially with the western world. This bill keys in on the need to legislate a uniform size of classroom or fixed classroom to student ratio in our schools to improve the situation of public education in the country.

The Department of Education (DepEd) recorded the current classroom-student ratio in public elementary schools at 1:34 on average, and in public high schools at 1:45. The improvement is attributed to the shifting method where classes are now held in three shifts daily. Among the provinces and cities, worst off are Sarangani at 66 students per classroom, Sultan Kudarat at 63, and Tacurong City at 62¹. Big classes take rigorous physical and professional toll on teachers, result in impersonal learning, and frame a disruptive learning environment for our students.

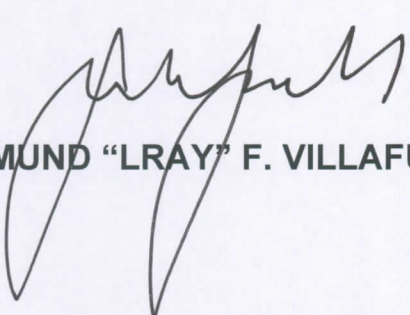
This bill institutionalizes an ideal class size of no more than 35 enrolled students. Any class exceeding 35 students up to a maximum of 50 students shall be considered a large class. Teachers of large classes shall receive an honorarium equivalent to one percent (1%) of their daily rate for every student in excess of 35. In no case shall a class size larger than 50 enrolled students shall be permitted.

1. <http://www.mindanews.com/top-stories/2012/011725-classrooms-needed-in-r-12-for-ideal-classroom-student-ratio/>

We recognize the problems that beset our education sector, and continuously strive to make the situation better for our teachers and students alike. Under this bill, an

amount of five billion pesos is allotted to ensure its efficient and successful implementation.

In consideration of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

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EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. ¹⁷⁵²

Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

AN ACT
REGULATING CLASS SIZE IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known "The Public School Size Law of 2018."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is the declared policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education. It is likewise declared that the State shall provide just compensation and human working conditions for public school teachers.

Oversized classes in the country's public schools adversely affect the learning experience provided to Filipino school children. To ensure access to quality education, it is necessary to establish standards for class size.

For their part, teachers are entitled to protection from unregulated increases in class size as well as to compensation commensurate to their actual workload.

SECTION 3. Coverage. — This Act shall apply to all classes in public schools of the Department of Education, and to all classroom teachers therein, whether paid by the national or local government.

SECTION 4. Standard Class Size. — Each class to be handled by a single teacher shall have a standard size of 35 students. For purposes of this Act, any class with not more than 35 students shall be considered a standard class.

SECTION 5. Large Class Size. — Any class exceeding 35 students up to a maximum of 50 students shall be considered a large class. In no case shall a class size in excess of 50 students be permitted.

SECTION 6. Large Class Honorarium. — A teacher handling a large class shall be entitled to a large class honorarium equivalent to one percent (1 %) of her daily rate for every student in excess of the standard class size of 35.

This formula shall apply to all classes assigned to the teacher during the school year.

SECTION 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The Department of Education shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act within a period of thirty (30) days after its effectivity.

SECTION 8. Appropriations. — The amount of Five Billion Pesos (P 5,000,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the appropriations for the Department of Education (DepEd) in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause. — If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional, all other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, rules and regulations, and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or one (1) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,