

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6224**



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Introduced by **HON. JOSEPH "JOJO" L. LARA**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

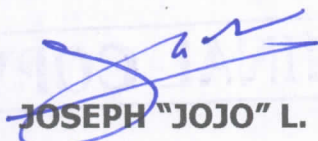
One way to improve the quality of education in the country is to invest in our teaching personnel, by upgrading their compensation scheme, which may include non-monetary benefits such as housing.

Our teachers are the foundation of our children's learning. They are considered as modern day heroes because their profession requires not only skill but as well as passion and dedication. With the current state of our public school system, a teacher must really be dedicated in order to stay and do well in their chosen profession. This situation is more apparent in the provinces and other far flung areas, especially those teaching in last mile schools.

Some teachers travel for hours, navigating dangerous terrain, just to reach their beloved students. Providing them with dormitories or housing quarters will definitely ease their burden and give them more time to relax and prepare for their classes the next day.

The Department of Education alone has stated that our country has 7,144 last mile schools - those with less than four classrooms, usually makeshift and nonstandard ones; no electricity; no funds for repairs or new construction projects in the last four years; and a travel distance of more than one hour away from the center, accessible only through difficult terrain. Likewise, these are schools with multi-grade classes, with less than five teachers, and a population of less than 100 learners, more than 75% of whom are indigenous peoples (IP).

In lieu of the foregoing, the passage of this bills is earnestly sought.

  
**JOSEPH "JOJO" L. LARA**

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**AN ACT**  
**TO PROVIDING FOR DORMITORIES OR HOUSING QUARTERS FOR**  
**TEACHERS TEACHING IN FAR FLUNG AREAS, LAST MILE SCHOOLS AND**  
**STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES 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 "Dormitories or Housing Quarters for Teachers Act of 2020."

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is hereby declared to be the policy of State 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.

**SECTION 3. *Coverage.*** – This program shall cover public schools in far flung areas, those considered as last mile schools and state universities and colleges located far from the city center.

**SECTION 4.** The Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall undertake the effective implementation of the program in coordination with the various concerned institutions and instrumentalities.

**SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** – An initial budget of One Billion Pesos (Php 1,000,000,000.00) is hereby allocated for this Act. The funds necessary to carry out the provision of this Act in the succeeding years shall be included in the General Appropriation Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

**SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of



Public Works and Highways (DPWH) are hereby tasked to formulate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.