

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3307



Introduced by Hon. John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto

Explanatory Note:

As a manifestation of support to this timely piece of legislation, this representation respectfully refiles this bill, which has constantly been receiving support from the past and present congress.

It is a well known fact that Public schools in the Philippines pale in comparison in terms of the quality of education as compared to private schools. Despite that disparity between schools, they accommodate an increasing number of students every year for most Filipino families cannot afford to enroll their kids to these Private institutions. With this influx of students, public school teachers often divide classes into three shifts (Morning, Afternoon, and Evening) and they resort to handling large classes of 50-80 students per shift.

A large class size may be attributed as one of the many factors that have contributed to the decline of the quality education in Public Schools. The teachers, as competent as they may be, are unable to supervise every student in an overcrowded classroom. The school experiences of the students are also adversely affected for the environment is no longer conducive for learning.

This bill seeks address this problem by regulating the class size of Public Schools and introducing an ideal teacher-students ratio. The bill seeks to mandate schools to only have no more than 35 students per class; any number exceeding to that (maximum of 50) shall be considered a large class. In the instance that teachers will have to accommodate a large class, they shall be entitled to receive an honorarium equivalent to one percent (1%) of their daily rate for ever student in excess of 35.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Marvin 'Yul Servo' Nieto". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J".

JOHN MARVIN "YUL SERVO" NIETO

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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**"

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,