

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4981



Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**
Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Perhaps one of the most overlooked sectors in this pandemic are our teachers. They have been constrained to push through with the academic year, implementing a blended learning program all while struggling to make ends meet because of the drastic decrease in enrollment and having to sustain a stable internet connection for online classes. Our teachers, much like other frontline professionals, have been sacrificing a lot in order to further the learning of their students. Thus, they should not be treated as martyrs but as professionals who should be honored and compensated as such.

There are close to one million public school teachers in the country.¹ Each of these teachers have been constrained to find ways to have stable internet connections and acquire gadgets conducive for online learning. The Department of Education's 2020 budget allocation for maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE) is P95,000,000,000 – with P30.6 billion going to school operations. Since there will be no physical classes, this budget may be greatly reduced and be reallocated for out teachers' needs.

It is then for these reasons that this bill is earnestly sought.


ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS
Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party-List

¹ <https://mb.com.ph/2020/06/13/grant-teachers-%E2%82%B11500-monthly-internet-allowance-deped-urged/>

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A MONTHLY INTERNET ALLOWANCE FOR ALL 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. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Internet Allowance for Public School Teachers Act of 2022”.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. In order to provide quality education and to ensure that our teachers are given the support, they need in the undertaking of their profession, the State shall provide every public school teacher an Internet allowance to fulfill the objectives of the blended learning program. It is also hereby declared that enabling every public school teacher to have a reliable Internet connection is an indispensable component of the functions of the State in improving learning instruction and the delivery of education.

SECTION 3. Internet Allowance. – An Internet Allowance of P 1,000.00 per month is hereby granted to all public school teachers engaged in the distance- and/or blended learning programs.

SECTION 4. Coverage. – This Act shall cover all public school teachers who are engaged in distance- and/or blended-learning programs both in elementary and secondary public schools.

SECTION 5. Liquidation Reports. - As a precondition for the release of the succeeding month’s Internet Allowance, the school, through a designated officer, shall submit an itemized report of how each teacher who received the benefits of this Act has spent the granted allowance. Such a report must show to the satisfaction of the implementing agencies that the Internet Allowance was spent in its entirety for its intended purpose.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Education and the Department of Budget and Management shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the faithful and effective implementation of the provisions of this Act within thirty (30) days from the date of its effectivity.

Failure of the agencies to comply with the mandate under this Section will render the responsible officials liable under the relevant administrative and criminal laws.

SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* – Upon effectivity of this Act, the amounts necessary for its implementation shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Department of Education. Thereafter, the funds shall be provided in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision of this Act or any part thereof be declared invalid, the other provisions, insofar as they are separable from the invalid ones, shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.* – Any provision of laws, orders, agreements, rules, or regulations contrary to and inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication either in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,