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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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House Bill No. 2620



Introduced by Rep. RONALD V. SINGSON

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act 8190 lays down the principles for the appointment and hiring of public school teachers. The law gives priority to applicants who are residents of the barangay, city or municipality where the public elementary or high school is located. This law surely ensures convenience for public school teachers who are assigned to schools near to their residences. The downside, however, is that the practice proves detrimental to the efforts in improving the general standard of education in the Philippines. The law proceeds from the rather flawed assumption that there is an even distribution of competent teachers across cities, municipalities or barangays.

Before the advent of RA 8190, the appointment and assignment of public school teachers were pursuant to Section 3 of Republic Act 4670 or the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers. Appointments and assignments were based mainly on merit and fitness which was determined by ranking in competency examinations and qualifications.

In many cases, the law has been abused since the certifications issued by heads of barangays supplanted the effective ranking methods. There is the tendency for an eligible teacher within the barangay to perpetuate mediocrity in instructions within the area. There is no infusion of better and more intelligent teachers who have been excluded from the appointment process because of the provisions of RA 8190.

The decline in the quality of instruction results in the corresponding decline in student learning performance. The results of succeeding international competency examinations reveal the very poor performance of Filipino students in various subjects compared to their foreign counterparts. Further, majority of public elementary school graduates regularly fare miserably in high school