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SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE	1	
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	1	()
First Regular Session	1	
	SENATE	

Introduced by SEN. SHERWIN T. GATCHALIAN

s.B. No. 1287

AN ACT LOWERING THE COMPULSORY AND OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"What nobler employment, or more valuable to the state, than that of the man who instructs the rising generation?"
- Marcus Tullius Cicero

The important role of teachers in nation-building cannot be overemphasized. Teachers do not merely impart knowledge to their students, they also build up ethical principles that guide them in becoming responsible citizens of tomorrow.

Sadly, public school teachers in the Philippines face a number of challenges that make it more difficult for them to practice their profession. They are found to be overworked based on the following criteria: 1) pupil: teacher ratio, 2) teaching hours per day and 3) teaching hours per year. With long working hours and larger class sizes, public school teachers are unlikely to have the time, energy and opportunity for

professional development. Because of these conditions, public school teachers are exposed to occupational hazards and physical stress that usually lead to health problems even before they reach the current retirement age.

In consideration of their invaluable service, it is high time we reward our public school teachers with a lowered retirement age in order that they may get the chance to explore other worthwhile pursuits in the years that they still can, with the benefits that they have tirelessly toiled and scrimped on. Hence, we seek the immediate passage of this bill to show support and encouragement to our puble teachers.

SHERWIN T. GATCHALIAN

¹ http://www.philippinesbasiceducation.us/2013/05/teacher-statistics-for-philippines.html.



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AN ACT

LOWERING THE COMPULSORY AND OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

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 "New Retirement Age of Public School Teachers Act".

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- SEC. 2. **Compulsory Retirement Age** The compulsory retirement age for all public school teachers shall be upon the attainment of the age of sixty (60). If a public school teacher has less than 15 years of service, he may be allowed to continue in the service until he reaches the age of sixty-five (65), in accordance with existing civil service rules and regulations.
- SEC 3. **Retirement Benefits** Retirement benefits may, upon election of the retiree, be received in the following manner:
 - (1) lump sum payment, as defined under the R.A. 8291 or the "Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997", payable at the time of retirement, plus an old-age pension benefit equal to the basic monthly pension, payable

1	monthly for life, starting upon the expiration of the five (5)-year guaranteed
2	period covered by the lump sum; or
3	(2) cash payment equivalent to eighteen (18) months of his basic monthly
4	pension, plus monthly pension for life payable on the first month following
5	the date of retirement.
6 7 8 9	SEC. 4. – Optional Retirement Age – A public school teacher who retires from the service shall be entitled to the retirement benefits in the preceding paragraph provided that:
10 11	1) he has rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service;
12 13	2) he is at least sixty (55) years of age at the time of retirement; and
14 15 16	3) he is not receiving a monthly pension for a permanent total disability benefit under R.A. 8291 or the "Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997."
17	SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations Within sixty (60) days upon
18	the approval of this Act, the Government Service Insurance System shall, in
19	consultation with the various stakeholders, formulate the rules and regulations
20	necessary for the proper implementation of this Act.
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22	SEC. 6. Repealing Clause All laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive
23	orders, administrative orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with
24	or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified or repealed
25	accordingly.
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27	SEC. 7. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication

Approved

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in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.