

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 412

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE TOBIAS "TOBY" M. TIANGCO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"Public office is a public trust. Public officers and employees must, at all times, be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency; act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives." (Section 1, Article XI of the 1987 Constitution).

In furtherance of this Constitutional policy, Republic Act 6713, otherwise known as the "Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees" was enacted, which provides "[p]ublic officials and employees shall enter public service with utmost devotion and dedication to duty and shall endeavour to discourage wrong perceptions of their roles as dispensers or peddlers of undue patronage."


Notwithstanding the express mandate of the Constitution and existing laws, some members of Congress have failed to promptly, effectively, and efficiently carry out and perform the mandate of their office by reason of their failure to regularly attend the sessions of Congress. Thus, the lack of a quorum, hampers the prompt passage of bills.

During the past Congresses, the session of Congress starts on Mondays up to Thursdays. During Thursday sessions, however, only few members would attend the session because according to them, they attend to their districts to attend to constituent functions. For this reason, the leadership of past Congresses shortened the number of days and removed Thursday as session day. Despite this change in session days, still, the attendance of house members has not improved.

At present, there are no existing policies that will discourage, if not sanction, the frequent absences of members of Congress. This situation may very well be seen as unfair, considering that ordinary citizens are subjected to the "no work, no pay" policy. More importantly, their presence is required to represent the people and give their constituents a vote in Congress.

In order to promote professionalism, dedication to duty and efficiency in the performance of duty, this bill earnestly seeks the adoption of a "no work, no pay" policy for members of Congress. With the adoption of this policy, the avowed goal of government to improve the standard of living of the ordinary Filipino citizen, and to achieve sustainable development through effective

legislation will be more effectively achieved. Thus, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



TOBIAS "TOBY" M. TIANGCO



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House Bill No. 412

Introduced by Representative Tobias "Toby" Tiangco

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A "NO WORK, NO PAY" POLICY
FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *No Work, No Pay Policy.* – All members of Congress shall attend, participate and take part in the regular and special sessions of Congress. In case of failure to attend the regular and special sessions for unjustifiable cause, appropriate deductions on monthly salary shall be imposed in accordance herein below provided:

“Monthly Salary divided by Number of Session Days equals Salary per Session Day

Salary per Session Day multiplied by Number of Absences equals Total Deductions

Monthly Salary less Total Deductions equals Net Monthly Salary”

SEC. 2. *Implementation.* – The Civil Service Commission, the Commission on Audit and the Department of Budget and Management, in coordination with the Accounting Department of Congress, shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to further carry out the purpose of this Act.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.*- All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or proclamations and other issuances, contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.