

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*First Regular Session*



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. **2758**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The ideal international classroom-to-student ratio is 1:35. To achieve this, the Department of Education (DepEd) stated that more than 50,000 additional classrooms are still needed. And to construct these additional classrooms, a bigger budget is required. The proposed 2010 budget that DepEd asked for is P370 billion, but instead, their 2010 budget is only P172.84 billion. This is not enough to solve all the problems of education sector, let alone the construction of additional classrooms.

For 2019, the DepEd was allocated P527.714 billion or 72.1% of its P732.28 billion proposed budget. The 2019 allocation is 8.92% lower than its 2018 budget of P579.419 billion

In order to remedy the situation, the DepEd has to look for other ways to solve their problem on classroom shortage.

With this in mind, there has been a proposal from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to donate to the DepEd confiscated wood products for the construction of classrooms instead of auctioning it off where in some instances, the wood products are bought by the illegal loggers themselves.

The DENR said that they have on hand some 1.37 million board feet of confiscated wood products. These wood products would go a long way in helping solve the problem of classroom shortage in the country.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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AN ACT  
MANDATING THAT ALL ILLEGAL WOOD PRODUCTS CONFISCATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES BE DONATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSROOM, TABLES, CHAIRS AND OTHER SCHOOL FACILITIES.

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

**SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to ensure that all its citizens received quality education in an atmosphere which is conducive to learning.

**SEC. 2.** The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is hereby mandated to donate all illegal wood products confiscated to the Department of Education.

**SEC. 3.** The Department of Education (DepEd) is, in turn, mandated to use all the wood products donated by the DENR for the construction of classrooms, tables, chairs and other school facilities.

**SEC. 4.** The DENR and the DepEd shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 5. Separability Clause** – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 6. Repealing Clause** – All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules and regulations, executive or administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7. Effectivity** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation

Approved,