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AN APPEAL TO TEACHERS

To : Undersecretaries/Assistant Secretaries
Bureau/Center/Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Public School Teachers, Principals and Supervisors
All Others Concerned

Next week's elections are critical to the country's drive for greater stability and accelerated economic growth. This political exercise, if peaceful and credible, can contribute immensely to strengthening our democratic institutions and processes. Its success depends to a significant extent on how well we, in the Department of Education, will carry out the critical tasks that have been entrusted to us.

We cannot overemphasize the crucial role of teachers and the entire DepEd organization in the electoral process. Unfortunately, memories of incidents and experiences in the past continue to create anxiety among our teachers. For this reason, we have gone the 'extra mile' to prepare and protect our teachers for their mandated duties. We conducted capability-building seminars to familiarize teachers with the detailed election procedures and to alert them to potential problem areas. We have set up a legal assistance network that will extend the necessary legal services to teachers who may get caught in election-related cases. And for the first time in election history, our teachers will be receiving an advance payment on their election honoraria, in addition to the grant of service credits:

Let me assure you, then, of the Department's continued support for your work in these elections. I am confident also that, despite past experiences, our commitment to our responsibility as guardians of the ballot remains undiminished. It is our duty to God and country to safeguard the integrity of the elections. It is my hope that we will all work together to ensure honest, orderly and peaceful elections.

May God bless our efforts!

EDILBERTO C. DE JESUS
Secretary

References:

DepED Memoranda: Nos. 182 and 184, s. 2004

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

ALLOWANCE
ELECTION
TEACHERS