



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

IBP Road, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City 1126

Telephone Nos. (632) 931-8101 to 07; Telefax (632) 931-8191

E-mail: osec@dswd.gov.ph

Website: <http://www.dswd.gov.ph>

23 September 2016

Representative FREDERICK F. ABUEG

Chairperson

Committee on Social Services

House of Representatives

Quezon City

Dear **Representative Abueg**,

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports House Bill Nos 209, 524, 591,656, 1831, 2173, 2513, 2546 and 2738 that aim to provide mandatory PhilHealth coverage and P500 monthly stipend to Persons With Disability (PWD).

To further enhance the bill and contents, may we recommend the following:

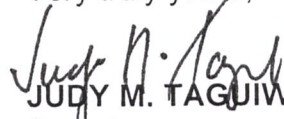
1. Consolidate the nine (9) bills into one.
2. Firm up the classification/categorization of the types of disability as well as the database of persons with disability to support the effective implementation of these bills once enacted into law.
3. The Committee to consult the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation as the body that will extend the additional benefits to PWDs and the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) as the lead agency tasked to coordinate the activities of all agencies regarding PWD issues and concerns. This is to anticipate and remedy possible constraints in the implementation of the bills on the particular documentary requirements.
4. On the proposed P500 monthly stipend, we believe the following should be considered:
 - a. The source of fund of the said monthly stipend
 - b. Qualifications of the PWDs who will be entitled to the monthly stipend, e.g. indigents
 - c. The modality and frequency of the monthly stipend's release

Further, we suggest that the agency/agencies that will be responsible for the implementation of this monthly stipend be stipulated in the bill

5. Finally, for the drafting of the Implementing Rules and Regulations, include the PhilHealth as the proper agency having knowledge of the benefits being extended by these bills.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


JUDY M. TAGUIWALO
Secretary