



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

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HONORABLE FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.

Chairperson
Committee on Local Government
Senate
Pasay City

Dear Senator Marcos:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development respectfully supports Senate Bill No. 530, entitled: "An Act Mandating the Representation of the Elderly in the Sanggunian and Local Special Bodies in the Local Government Units (LGUs)," introduced by Senator Loren Legarda.

The Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010 provides for the establishment of the Office for Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) in all cities and municipalities to be headed by a senior citizen who shall be appointed by the mayor for a term of three (3) years. It also provides the OSCA Head opportunities to participate in local mechanisms through the organization of federations and associations. However, he/she has no direct participation in the deliberation of proposed ordinances introduced by the Sanggunian members in Sanggunians and local special bodies. Hence, this bill will prove crucial in ensuring that the issues and concerns of senior citizens directly reach the Sanggunian and local special bodies.

The DSWD believes that direct and permanent representation of senior citizens in these bodies can contribute in effectively addressing issues affecting the sector in their respective localities.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN
Secretary