



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

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11 April 2014

HONORABLE FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.

Chairperson

Committee on Local Government

Senate of the Philippines

Roxas Blvd., Pasay City

Dear Senator Marcos:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports **Senate Bill No. 68** or the "*Sangguniang Kabataan Empowerment Act of 2012*," introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, which aim to reform and empower the "*Sangguniang Kabataan (SK)*" in order to strengthen and properly guide the youth in local governance, community service and nation building.

However, to contribute to the bill's enhancement, we are proposing the following:

- ⚡ On **Sec. 1 (Title)**, we recommend that it should be read as: "*Sangguniang Kabataan Reform and Empowerment Act of 2014*." This would be consistent to the intent of the bill which is to "reform and empower the SK."

Further, the bill proposes for the amendments of Sections 329, 423 to 426, 428 to 436, and 439 of **Republic Act No. 7160** or the "*Local Government Code of 1991*," for the purpose of clear mechanisms, procedures, capability-building, transparency, and accountability of youth leaders.

- ⚡ On **Sec. 18 (Procedure for Reviewing SK Budgets)**, **letter (a), item no. (2)**, particularly on the mandatory allocations of the SK appropriations, hence, we believe that allocations should be based on the actual needs and priorities of the youth constituents in every given barangay. Further, 80% of funds should go through meaningful programs and 20% to administrative costs.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Florita R. Villar

FLORITA R. VILLAR

OIC-Secretary

Cc: **Secretary Manuel N. Mamba, M.D.**
Presidential Legislative Liaison Office
Office of the President, Manila