

HONORABLE JOSEPH VICTOR “JV” G. EJERCITO
Chairperson
Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

Dear **Senator EJERCITO**,

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports **Senate Bills Numbered 170, 192, 463, 1076, and 1091** or the “**Rental Housing Subsidy Program Act of 2022**”, introduced by Senators Francis Tolentino, Christopher Bong Go, Jinggoy Estrada, Lito Lapid, and Ramon Revilla, Jr., respectively, which seek to provide disaster victims better and more affordable access to the formal housing market through provision of rental subsidies provided by the government.

The DSWD respectfully submits the additional comments and recommendations:

1. To consolidate the bills into one.
2. Under **SBN 192**
 - 2.1 To include more specific details on the mechanisms and procedures for implementing the program. This will ensure that the program will be effectively implemented and will reach its intended beneficiaries.
 - 2.2 To specify the funding source for the program and ensure its sustainability.
 - 2.3 To explore ways to promote the development of rental housing as an alternative to homeownership, especially in urban areas where land and housing prices are high.
 - 2.4 **Sec. 8. Roles of Government Agencies**, to emphasize the need of funding support for agencies implementing the program, especially programs for livelihood and employment opportunities to displaced family members.
3. Under **SBN 463**
 - 3.1 To study further the specific provisions of the bill to assess the impact of the proposed rental subsidy program on the target beneficiaries, as well as the government’s budget and resources;


3.2 To ensure that there is a monitoring mechanism; and

3.3 To ensure that local government units are fully made partners in this undertaking.

This is being submitted for the Chairperson's consideration.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



REX GATCHALIAN
Secretary
Date: MAR 17 2023

