

HONORABLE MICHAEL L. ROMERO, PH.D.
Chairperson
Committee on Poverty Alleviation
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Attn: Ms. Maria Lourdes Sagmit Mendoza
Committee Secretary

Dear **REPRESENTATIVE ROMERO,**

This refers to your request for comments and recommendations on the following House Bills, namely:

House Bill (HB) No.	Title	Author
4762	Indigent Job Applicant Discount Act	Rep. Ernesto "Ernix" Dionisio, Jr. Manila 1 st District
4828	Poor Job Applicants Discount Act	Rep. Sam "SV" Verzosa Party List - TUTOK TO WIN
5553		Rep. Raymond Democrito Mendoza Party List - TUCP
5792	Indigent Job Applicants Discount Act	Rep. Gus S. Tambunting Parañaque City, 2 nd District

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) fully supports the measures proposed, particularly for the poor, vulnerable, and indigent Filipinos in applying for jobs in the country. As these measures promote economic inclusion, enhance livelihood opportunities, and strengthen the general well-being of vulnerable and marginalized individuals and families.

We submit, for the Committee's consideration, the following inputs and recommendations:

1. On the Inter-Agency Coordinating and Monitoring Committee under Section 6 of House Bill Numbered 5553

It is suggested to include the functions of each agency identified in the provision for a clearer delineation of functions and roles.

2. On the Identification of Beneficiaries

- As to Section 4 of House Bills Numbered 4828, 4762, 5553, and 5792, which states that an indigent job applicant refers to a person who is seeking gainful employment and has no visible means of income or whose income falls below the official poverty threshold, as identified by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) based on the criteria set under the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) as established under Republic Act No. 11315, otherwise known as the "Community Based Monitoring System Act."

Members of the households of the "Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)" shall be automatically considered "indigent" and are eligible to avail of the privileges under this Act.

Please be informed that the Department has previously submitted its Position Paper on House Bills Numbered 367, 2533, 3048, 3533, and 3604. The comments and recommendations therein are also applicable to the above-mentioned measures.

Kindly see attached copy of the DSWD's Official Position Paper dated 07 October 2022 for information and reference.

For the Chairperson's consideration.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



REX GATCHALIAN

Secretary

Date: MAY 31 2023