

**HON. ANGELICA NATASHA CO**

Chairperson

Committee on Women of Children

House of Representatives

Quezon City

Attn: **SYLVIA O. CHICO****Acting Committee Secretary**Dear **REPRESENTATIVE CO,**

This refers to your request for comments and recommendations on the following measures on the Internet and Digital Content Safety and Online Protection for Children or Regulating the Use of Social Media:

House Bill No.	Title	Author
House Bill No. 543	"AN ACT REGULATING THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA, PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN, MINORS, AND CONSUMERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES",	Representative Dan S. Fernandez
House Bill No. 4792	"AN ACT REQUIRING COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS TO USE APPROPRIATE FILTERING DEVICES AND FIREWALLS THAT WILL RESTRICT CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO HARMFUL MATERIALS, DEFINING FOR THAT PURPOSE OFFENSE RELATED THERETO, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"	Representative Gus S. Tambunting
House Bill No. 5197	"AN ACT REQUIRING COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS TO USE APPROPRIATE FILTERING DEVICES AND FIREWALLS THAT WILL RESTRICT CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO HARMFUL MATERIALS, DEFINING FOR THAT PURPOSE OFFENSES RELATED THERETO,	Representative Juan Carlos "Arjo" C. Atayde

	PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"	
House Bill No. 2585	AN ACT PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE, CHILD TRAFFICKING, CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, AND VIOLENT CRIME ON CHILDREN BY PROHIBITING THE INGRESS OF FOREIGN SEX OFFENDERS AND ALIENS IN CONFLICT WITH CHILD PROTECTION LAWS; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE THEREWITH; AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES	Representative Edwin L. Olivarez

Foremost, we wish to enunciate that the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) supports measures that promote the welfare of children and protect them from various forms of abuse and exploitation, including those obtained online.

The DSWD, as member agency of the National Coordination Center Against Online Sexual Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Material created under Republic Act 11930 or "Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) Act" is highly committed in coordinating with various stakeholders in combating online sexual abuse and exploitation of children. It is also involved in policy development, awareness and prevention and most importantly, in victim support and reintegration.

Having reviewed the above-mentioned bills, we respectfully recommend that the proposed measures be further studied in consideration of RA 11930 that primarily ensures the safety, well-being, and healthy development of children through education, community involvement, effective policies, and technological measures to create a safer digital environment for children.

For the Chairperson's consideration.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

  
**REX GATCHALIAN,**  
 Secretary  
 Date: MAY 30 2023