

HONORABLE MARK O. GO

Chairperson

Committee on Higher and Technical Education

House of Representatives

Quezon City

ATTN: Ms. Melanie Mauricio
Committee Secretary

Dear Representative Go,

This refers to your request for submission of a position paper on the following bills:

| House Bill (HB) No. | Title | Author |
|------------------------|--|---|
| HBN. 5462 | An Act Providing for a Moratorium on Student Loan Payments During Disasters and Other Emergencies | Representative Ernesto "Ernix" M. Dionisio, Jr. |
| HBN. 7279 | An Act Providing for a Moratorium on the Payment of Student Loans During Disasters and Other Emergencies | Representative Juan Carlos "Arjo" C. Atayde |
| HBN. 7710 | An Act Providing for a Moratorium on the Payment of Student Loans During Disasters and Other Emergencies | Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez |

As the lead in social protection, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) supports measures that promote accessible, inclusive, and sustained education of students, especially those with financial difficulties.

In line with this, may we respectfully inform you that the DSWD implements the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) - Educational Assistance that assists students in crisis to help defray school expenses such as school fees, school supplies, school projects, and allowances.

Under DSWD Memorandum Circular no. 6, series of 2023, the rates and frequency of educational assistance are as follows:

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|----------|-----------|---|
| Educational Assistance | Elementary including SPED | 1,000.00 | 5,000.00 | Once every school year |
| | Highschool | | | |
| | Senior High | 1,000.00 | 10,000.00 | Once every semester (Varies per region) |
| | College and | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| | Vocational | | | preferably done offsite |
|--|------------|--|--|----------------------------|

The DSWD joins the proponents of the above-mentioned bills in ensuring that financial constraints will not derail the completion of education of the youth, particularly in times of disaster.

For the Chairperson's consideration.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



REX GATCHALIAN

Secretary

Date: JUN 08 2023

APS/IBD