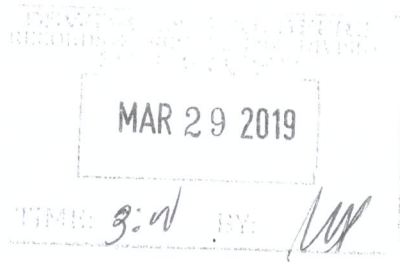




15 March 2019

USEC. ANTONIO A. GALLARDO

Presidential Legislative Liaison Office
Senate of the Philippines
GSIS Bldg., Financial Center
Diokno Blvd., Pasay City



Dear **Undersecretary Gallardo**:

This refers to **Committee Report No. 623** on the approval of **Senate Bill No. 2011**, taking into consideration **House Bill No. 7033** entitled: An Act Strengthening the Regulation of Social Welfare and Development Agencies or the "**Social Welfare and Development Agencies Act**" on 31 January 2019.

Please be informed that the proposed measure is one of the **priority legislations of the Department for the 17th Congress** thus, we are **continuously advocating for its immediate enactment into law**, which seeks to:

1. Strengthen the regulatory functions of the DSWD over the public and private individuals, groups, associations, and organizations engaged in social welfare and development activities;
2. Provide the DSWD the authority to regulate the practice of social work and the operation of social work agencies under Section 23 and 25 of Republic Act No. 4373 entitled: "An Act to Regulate the Practice of Social Work and the Operation of Social Work Agencies in the Philippines and for Other Purposes" as amended by RA 5175 of 1965. The proposed bill also anchored on the following laws:
 - 2.1 **Republic Act No. 5416 of 1968** entitled: "An Act Providing for Comprehensive Social Service for Individuals and Groups in Need of Assistance, Creating for this Purpose a Department of Social Welfare" or the "Social Welfare Act of 1968";
 - 2.2 **Presidential Decree 603** or the "Child and Youth Welfare Code";
 - 2.3 **Executive Order 292** or the "Administrative Code of 1987"; and
 - 2.4 **Executive Order 221**, series 2003 entitled: "Redirecting the Functions and Operations of the Department of Social Welfare and Development", amending Executive Order No. 15, series of 1998
3. Provide sanctions to Social Welfare and Development Agencies (SWDAs)/Social Work Agencies (SWAs) in case of non-compliance with standards and procedures set by the DSWD;

4. Provide benefits and incentives to registered, licensed, and accredited SWDAs in recognition of their importance and invaluable contribution in social welfare and development; and
5. Strengthen the DSWD Standards Bureau structure which will be responsible in fulfilling the regulatory functions of the Department

Attached are copies of **DSWD Official Position Paper** and **Supplemental Position Paper including the Signature Campaign** regarding the proposed provision on "Tax Exemption", which were provided to the Senate Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development on **17 October 2018** and **13 March 2019**, respectively thru our Records and Archives Management Division for reference.

Very truly yours,



ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA

Secretary

Date: _____

Enclosure: As stated