

September 11, 2019

**Honorable FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES**  
Chairperson  
Committee on People's Participation  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

**Dear Representative Robes:**

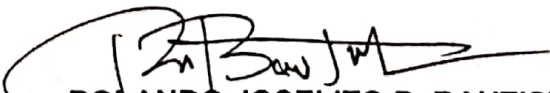
The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports House Bill Nos. 2003, 2036, 2856, 3474 and 3852 entitled: "Emergency Volunteer Protection Act", introduced by Representatives Vargas, Sy-Alvarado, Nieto, Herrera-Dy and Agabas, respectively, House Bill No. 3134 entitled: "Amending Section 2 of Republic Act 9418 or the Volunteer Act of 2007", introduced by Representative Acosta-Matba and House Bill No. 3475 or "Institutionalizing December as the National Volunteer Month", introduced by Representative Bustos.

To contribute to the bills' enhancement, we are recommending the following:

1. Consolidate the seven bills into one;
2. Exercise with due diligence the recruitment and screening of volunteers in order to mitigate risks in areas such as public safety, damage to life and property, compliance with legal requirements and facing future lawsuits;
3. Adopt the definition of "Volunteer" under Republic Act No. 9418 (Volunteerism Act of 2007); and
4. Incorporate a provision for the production and distribution of Information and Education Campaign (IEC) materials since the bills envision to promote the participation of Filipino citizens in public and in civic affairs of the Philippines thru volunteerism.

For the Committee's consideration.

Very truly yours,

  
**ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA**  
Secretary  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

