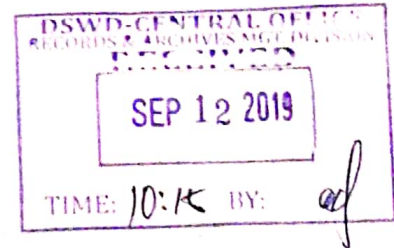


September 03, 2019

**Honorable RAMON "BONG" REVILLA, JR.**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Civil Service, Government  
Reorganization and Professional Regulation  
Senate of the Philippines  
Pasay City



Dear **Senator Revilla**:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) submits its comments on **Senate Bill No. 244** entitled: "**Rightsizing the National Government Act,**" introduced by Senate President Vicente C. Sotto III, which seeks to promote and maintain effectiveness, efficiency and economy in the government.

1. The intent of the bill to improve public service delivery to attain the country's societal and economic development goals should be balanced with the protection of workers' rights and welfare. It should be emphasized that even the Constitution indicated that the State should affirm labor as a primary social economic force.
2. There is a need to conduct thorough evaluation of existing government structures as well as competencies of their personnel before the approval of the bill and not after the fact to determine what is the actual "right size" for the bureaucracy. The evaluation should also highlight the changes to be made - whether to scale up or downsize the bureaucracy and the corresponding fund allocation.
3. Exhaustive consultations and dialogues should also be conducted with the agencies especially the prospective employees to be affected by the rightsizing. The necessary protection and safety-nets for workers regardless of employment status before, during and after the law's enactment and implementation should be considered.
4. The bill should also consider the following:
  - a. The plan for federalism which would require another reorganization if it will be approved; and

- b. The Joint Circular No. 1, Series of 2018 or the "Amendment to the CSC-COA-DBM Joint Circular No. 1, S. of 2017," as an interim measure not to impair the delivery of public service may still affect a huge numbers of Contract of Service (COS) workers under the Department and other concerned agencies. This concern has a ripple effect to efficiently and effectively address public interest and good for the Filipino people.

For the Committee's consideration.

Very truly yours,



**ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA**

Secretary

Date \_\_\_\_\_