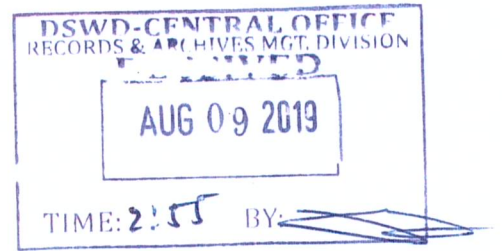




August 05, 2019

**Senator LEILA M. DE LIMA**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Social Justice, Welfare  
and Rural Development  
Senate of the Philippines  
Pasay City



**Dear Senator De Lima:**

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) fully supports the intent of the following bills to increase the monthly social pension of indigent senior citizens so they can support their daily subsistence and medical needs:

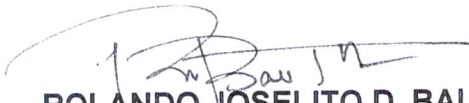
Senate Bill No. 126 – “An Act Providing for a Universal Social Pension for Senior Citizens, Further Amending for the Purpose R.A. 7432, as Amended by R. R. 9994, Otherwise Known as the ‘Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010’,” authored by Senator Grace Poe;

Senate Bill No. 133 – “An Increasing the Monthly Social Pension of Senior Citizens and Expanding the Coverage Thereof,” authored by Senator Sonny Angara; and

Senate Bill No. 160 – “Am Act Granting Universal Social Pension to All Senior Citizens Aged 65 Years Old and Above, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act Mo. 7432, as Amended,” authored by Senator Risa Hontiveros.

Aside from the consolidation of these bills into one, may we also recommend the Committee to consult the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on the availability of funds to cover such increase. Currently, the DSWD Social Pension Program provides for all indigent senior citizens sixty years old and above with a Php500.00 monthly stipend.

Very truly yours,

  
**ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA**  
Secretary