



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

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HONORABLE PIA S. CAYETANO

Chairperson
Committee on Education, Arts and Culture
Senate of the Philippines
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City

Dear Senator Cayetano:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports **Senate Bill Nos. 275, 1889 & 2156: *Open High School System Act***, introduced by Senators Revillar Jr., Defensor-Santiago, and Angara, respectively and **Senate Bill No. 1340: *Independent Study of Distance Education Act***, introduced by Senator Defensor-Santiago, as they provide greater access to quality education for our youth and disadvantaged adults.

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

1. To consolidate the proposed measures into one.
2. On **Sec. 3 (*Definition of Terms*)**, to include a clear definition of "**youth**" which will be read: "**Youth shall refer to those persons whose ages range from 15 to 30 years old.**"
3. On **Sec. 6 (*Clientele of the System*)**, to include priority sectors in the program, e.g. youth and adults with disability, children in conflict with the law who are currently undergoing rehabilitation as well as adults who are detained in correctional institutions.
4. On **Sec. 11 (*Role of Parents*)**, to include the word "**guardian**" which will be read: "**Role of Parents/Guardian.**"
5. On **Sec. 14 (*Curriculum Content*)**, to use appropriate terms, e.g. "**Children/Youth in Conflict with the Law**" instead of "**youth offenders**" and "**Persons with behavior disorders**" instead of "**disordered and antisocial learners.**"
6. On **Sec. 15 (*Implementing Rules and Regulations*)**, to adopt the version of Sen. Angara wherein other agencies and institutions are included in the promulgation of the IRR.
7. To include a **Section for Coverage**, to indicate the concerned LGUs where the system might be implemented considering that LGUs have 1st to 6th class category.

Further, to be able to determine the efficiency and applicability of this mode to high school students, it is imperative to further study the proposed educational program. While the "Open High School System" tries to reach out to the underprivileged OSY and adults, the means of utilizing tri-media, web-based IEC and satellite broadcasting might be too costly and not affordable considering the socio-economic status of the target primary beneficiaries.

For consideration of the Committee.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN
Secretary