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**Republic of the Philippines**  
**Department of Social Welfare and Development**

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21 October 2014

**Honorable ROGELIO G. ESPINA**

Chairman

Committee on Population and Family Relations

House of Representatives

Quezon City

**Dear Representative Espina:**

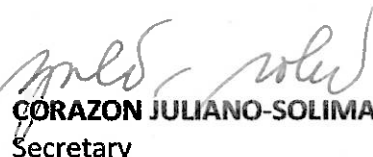
The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports the passage of House Bill No. 4265, entitled: "An Act Providing For The Maintenance And Welfare Of Senior Citizens, Further Amending Republic Act No. 7432, As Amended, And For Other Purposes," authored by Rep. Sherwin N. Tugna.

We welcome the proposed provisions of the bill that seek to expand the privileges and benefits of senior citizens, as follows: the entitlement of a senior citizen to a 20% discount on bank transaction fees, the establishment of a mechanism on the application of discount on online transactions to avail the goods and services, the imposition of a penalty in abandoning a senior citizen without his/her consent but who still has control of his/her mental faculties, and requiring government hospitals to provide beds for senior citizens.

Likewise, we support the proposal of bill that also seeks to expand the facilities for treatment of chronic, terminal and degenerative diseases to cover senior citizens, and the conduct of research activities for chronic elderly diseases

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

  
**CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN**  
Secretary