



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

IBP Road, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City 1126

Telephone Nos. (632) 931-8101 to 07; Telefax (632) 931-8191

e-mail: osec@dswd.gov.ph

Website: <http://www.dswd.gov.ph/>

15 May 2014

HONORABLE ROGELIO J. ESPINA

Chairman
Committee on Population and Family Relations
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Dear Congressman Espina:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) fully supports the enactment into law of House Bill No. 3175, entitled: "An Act Providing For The Mandatory PhilHealth Coverage For All Senior Citizens, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7432, As Amended by Republic Act No. 9994, Otherwise Known As The "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010," authored by Rep. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D.

We believe that available provision for healthcare services such as this (bill) for all senior citizens will address their health needs. The bill will now cover those senior citizens who are not either PhilHealth members, or PhilHealth dependents or government sponsored members either by the LGUs or by the National Government through the DSWD NHTS program.

We would like to inform the Committee that based on DSWD researches and policy papers showed that under the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010, health-related benefits and privileges are most availed of by the Senior Citizens.

Anent, the findings and observations of the World Health Organization Regional Meeting on Ageing and Health declared that national public health policies must recognize the present health trends and the inevitable conditions attending ageing. It, thereby necessitates an integrated and comprehensive approach to elderly care which includes an accessible and affordable health programs and services, etc.

It shall likewise be a great incentive for children to continue caring for their ageing and sickly parents instead of feeling overly burdened by them for their medical and healthcare expenses.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


MATEO G. MONTAÑO
OIC Secretary