



04 July 2017

SENATOR LOREN B. LEGARDA

Chairperson
Committee on Finance
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

Dear **Senator Legarda**:

This has reference to the request of the Senate Committee on Finance for our Department's official position on Senate Bill No. 459 authored by Sen. Antonio F. Trillanes, IV which seeks to amend Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act of 2003".

The Department of Social Welfare and Development recognizes the importance of transparency in our procurement system. However, we find the need to further study the proposal to mandate the video recording of all procurement-related conferences. RA 9184 and its 2016 Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) already provide for the documentation and recording of all activities of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) through the Minutes of Meeting(s). Further, the said IRR also provides that the recording be dependent on the Procuring Entity (PE). The same Minutes of Meeting(s) may already be used as evidence in court proceedings should there be future questions or investigations related to a particular procurement transaction.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Turalde-Jarabe', is written over a horizontal line.

MARIA LOURDES TURALDE-JARABE
Undersecretary and Officer-in-Charge

Cc : **Yolanda D. Doblón**
Director General
Legislative Budget Research and Monitoring Office (LBRMO)
Senate of the Philippines