



19 October 2017

REPRESENTATIVE RAYMOND DEMOCRITO C. MENDOZA

Chairperson
Committee on Poverty Alleviation
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Dear **Chairperson Mendoza**:

This has reference to House Bill No. 4700 or "An Act Institutionalizing Community Based Monitoring System (CBMS) in All Barangays, Appropriating Funds Therefore, and For Other Purposes" filed by Representative Jose Enrique S. Garcia III.

In line with this, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shares the following comments and recommendations:

1. In order to establish CBMS as the most cost-efficient way of collecting data for poverty alleviation efforts, we suggest the review / assessment of other major national and local poverty-related targeting and monitoring systems such as the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR), Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) and those maintained by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).
2. This review / assessment should look into these areas of concerns – variables collected; definitions used; data validation routines; data capture softwares; field implementation procedures (i.e. hiring and training of workers, human resource complement, institutional arrangements, among others); data transmission and financial requirements.
3. Lastly, instead of institutionalizing a new system to support the formulation of policies and programs for the poor, we recommend the resumption of meetings of the Technical Working Group on Poverty Monitoring and Indicator System (PMIS) to harmonize existing poverty monitoring and indicator systems among national government agencies.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emmanuel A. Leyco', is written over a white background.

EMMANUEL A. LEYCO
Undersecretary and Officer-in-Charge