



04 July 2017

**Representative KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES**

Chairperson  
Committee on Appropriations  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

Dear **Chairperson Nograles,**

The Department of Social Welfare and Development respectfully submits the following comments to HBN 5590 or the Budget Reform Act of 2017 that seeks to strengthen the transparency and accountability in the use of public fund:

1. **On Section 5. Congress, Section 7. Office of the Comptroller General, and Section 9. Department of Budget and Management,** a clear monitoring system or process shall be identified at each level to avoid repetition and duplication of functions.

Further, the OCG as the central body shall not only generate and consolidate various agencies' reports but shall also take appropriate action on said reports and shall coordinate with the concerned agencies on action taken.

2. **On Section 28. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund,** to change paragraph 2 to "*The NDRRMF may include the Quick Response Fund (QRF) of agencies which shall be used as a stand-by fund for relief and rehabilitation programs and projects, including pre-positioning of goods, emergency response units and other allied support items and equipment in order that the situation and living conditions of people in communities or areas stricken by calamities, epidemics, crises and catastrophes, which occurred in the current fiscal year or the last two (2) preceding years may be normalized as quickly as possible. The QRF shall be released directly to the agencies concerned upon approval of the DBM*".
3. **On Section 35. Release and Expenditure of Public Funds,** provide timeline for release of funds upon approval of the GAA for effective budget planning of the government agencies.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MARIA LOURDES TURALDE-JARABE', is written over a horizontal line.

**MARIA LOURDES TURALDE-JARABE**  
Undersecretary and Officer-In-Charge