



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Social Welfare and Development

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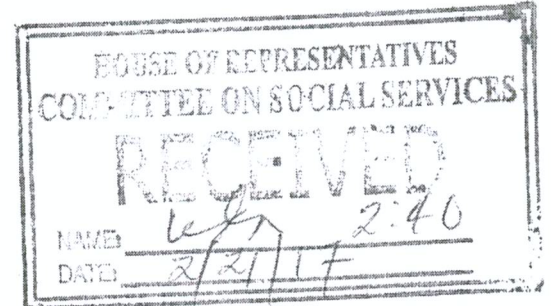
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09 February 2017

**REPRESENTATIVE SANDRA Y. ERIGUEL, M.D.**

Chairperson  
Committee on Social Services  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City



Dear **Chairperson Eriguel:**

This refers to House Bill No. 1101 entitled, "An Act Establishing The Volunteer Responders Incentives Protection Program Thereby Providing Financial And/Or Non-Pecuniary Benefits Especially For Those Who Become Victims Themselves Of Such Disasters, Calamities Or Emergencies In The Course Of Duty And For Other Purposes" introduced by Representative Winston "Winnie" Castelo.


Our Department supports the intention of the bill to provide incentives to volunteer responders who risk their lives to save those affected by disasters and other emergencies.

To contribute to the bill's enhancement, may we share with you these comments and recommendations:

1. For the Committee to consult the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) with regard to the intent and provisions of this bill. PNVSCA is the government agency mandated to promote and coordinate volunteer programs and services in the Philippines.
2. Include provisions for Extent and Scope of the Act, Implementing Rules and Regulations and Appropriations.
3. On Section 3, clarify the eligibility of the volunteer responders who will be entitled to the incentives. We also recommend that these volunteer responders be provided with psychosocial support services to ensure healthy mental and psychosocial well-being especially if they have experienced trauma. Further, that their children and/or dependents be extended assistance in case of temporary/permanent disability or death of the volunteer responder.
4. The Local Government Units (LGUs) through the recommendation of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction Office (LDRRO), may also provide incentives for local volunteer responders.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

  
**JUDY M. TAGUIWALO**  
Secretary