



11 April 2017

Representative CESAR V. SARMIENTO

Chairperson
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Dear Representative Sarmiento:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports House Bill Nos. 168, 174, 263, 582, 1203, 2101, 2276, 2300, 2983, 3954, 4212, 4992 and 5165 which seek to promote a safe, environment-friendly and sustainable transport system to uplift the quality of life of Filipinos and their children.

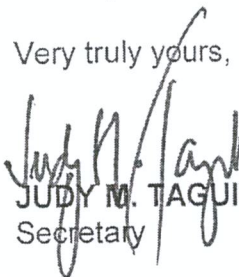
To contribute to the enhancement of the bills, may we recommend the following:

1. Consolidate the bills into one.
2. Proper urban planning and its counterpart for land*and transport development in rural areas should be explicitly stipulated and should increase access of the working poor to more transportation options.
3. The transport system being introduced should also be modified to fit the geographic particularities of the country e.g. Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA) and areas prone to disaster.
4. There is a need to engage other government agencies such as the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and Local Government Units (LGUs) to work hand-in-hand and come up with a realistic plan for its implementation.
5. On Pedestrian Safety for Persons With Disability (PWDs) as introduced in House Bill Nos. 168, 2101 and 5165:
 - a. Use the term "PWD" all throughout the bills to be consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability and national laws like the Magna Carta for Persons With Disability.

- b. The technologies/features to be introduced should be tailor-fitted to the specific needs of PWDs and their various categorizations not only of visually-impaired individuals. These technologies should also complement the PWDs' assistive devices.
 - c. We should also invest in the capacity-building of our traffic enforcers e.g. PWD sensitive trainings to enable them to properly assist our PWD pedestrians.
 - d. One possible reference of the Committee may be Batas Pambansa Bilang 344 or the Accessibility Law.
6. Include a provision for Information and Education Campaign (IEC) on this transport system.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


JUDY M. TAGUIWALO
Secretary