

**Republic of the Philippines**  
**Department of Social Welfare and Development**

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09 January 2017

**SENATOR RICHARD J. GORDON**

Chairperson

Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate of the Philippines

Pasay City

Dear **Chairperson Gordon:**

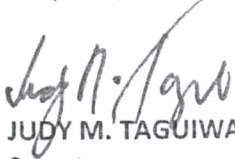
This refers to Senate Bill No. 729 or the "Anti-Prostitution Act" filed by Senator Francis G. Escudero.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) fully supports this bill and its intention to provide protective measures and support services to persons exploited in prostitution and at the same time, impose penalties on those who benefit and profit from the trade.

To contribute to the bill's enhancement, we are recommending that the local government units (LGUs) take the lead in implementing programs and services for persons exploited in prostitution and in closing establishments, corporations, partnerships or associations engaged in prostitution pursuant to the devolution of social services.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

  
JUDY M. TAGUIWALO  
Secretary