



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

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HONORABLE SALVIO B. FORTUNO

Chairperson

Committee on Poverty Alleviation

House of Representatives

Constitution Hills, Quezon City

Dear **Honorable Congressman Fortunio**:

This has reference to House Bill No. 5390 entitled, "An Act to Reduce Poverty and Promote Human Capital Development through the Creation of a National Conditional Fund Transfer Program" authored by Representative Marcelino R. Teodoro.

In line with this, the Department of Social Welfare and Development wishes to express its support on the intent of the bill to strengthen the selection of areas to be covered by the program and to ensure continuous funding for its implementation.

To contribute to the bill's enhancement, we are also recommending the following:

1. The bill should be consolidated with the Unnumbered Substitute Bill entitled, "An Act Institutionalizing the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program to Reduce Poverty and Promote Human Capital Development and Providing Funds Therefor" primarily authored by Representative Susan A. Yap.
2. On Section 7 - Eligible Households, Item 2: This section should be aligned with the current program design which covers poor households that have at least one child 0-18 years old and/or pregnant woman at the time of registration.
3. On Section 8 – Program Conditions, Item b: The K-12 Program prescribes that children begin Kindergarten at age 5 thus, we recommend this classification:

a.1 Children 3-4 years of age must enroll in Day Care and attend at least 85% of required school days

a.2 Children 5 years of age must enroll in Kindergarten and attend at least 85% of required school days.

May we also recommend that the provision covering children 6-14 years of age be stated as, "Children 6-18 years of age must enroll in school and attend at least 85% of required school days" in view of the current program design.

4. On Section 9 – Grant Rates: This section should include a provision on the education grant that each beneficiary can receive and another provision on the regular review of the grant amount to ensure that it is still responsive to commodity price increases.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


PARIVYA H. TARADJI
Officer-In-Charge