



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

IBP Road, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City 1126

Telephone Nos. (632) 931-8101 to 07; Telefax (632) 931-8191

e-mail: osec@dswd.gov.ph

Website: <http://www.dswd.gov.ph/>

30 August 2016

HONORABLE SALVIO B. FORTUNO

Chairperson

Committee on Poverty Alleviation

House of Representatives

Constitution Hills, Quezon City

Dear **Congressman Fortunio**,

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is firm in its commitment to empower the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged towards an improved quality of life. We believe that House Bill Nos. 154, 195, 1802 and 1494 will prove crucial in ensuring that children from poor families are given the necessary health and educational assistance.

We are pleased to note that the said bills, particularly HB 154 introduced by Rep. Susan A. Yap, already incorporated provisions on the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) and the Pantawid Pamilya Program's Compliance Verification System and Grievance Redress System. Through these built-in systems, we are assured that the rightful beneficiaries are identified, compliance to the set conditionalities are guaranteed and complaints are addressed properly. We also welcome the identification of the DSWD as the central agency to plan, coordinate, implement and monitor the program once one of the bills is enacted into law.

In line with this, we are also strongly recommending the following for consideration of the Committee:

1. Consolidation of HBs 154, 195 and 1802 with HB 1494 introduced by Rep. Magnolia Rosa Antonino-Nadres which supports the provision of a college scholarship program to high school graduates from the Pantawid Pamilya households.
2. Incorporation of a provision on the convergence of poverty reduction programs implemented by other government agencies with the Pantawid Pamilya Program.

3. Incorporate a provision that the budget for the implementation of the Pantawid Pamilya Program should also be charged against the Annual Appropriations of the DOH, DepEd and CHED.

With assurances of our continuing support and cooperation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



CORAZON JULIANO SOLIMAN
Secretary
