

07 April 2017

## SENATOR FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO

Chairperson
Committee on Education, Arts and Culture
Senate of the Philippines
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City

## Dear Chairperson Escudero:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports Senate Bill Nos. 946 and 1176 entitled: An Act Mandating Higher Education Institutions and Technical Vocational Institutions to Ensure the Safety and Security of the Academic Community from Internal and External Threats, Thereby Creating a Crime Prevention Committee for this Purpose and for Other Purposes or "The Campus Safety and Security Act," introduced by Senators Sonny Angara and Antonio "Sonny" Trillanes IV, respectively

These bills further strengthen the implementation of the Department of Education's (DepEd) Child Protection Policy covering those in primary and secondary levels and the Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) Memorandum Circular No. 09, series of 2013 or the "Enhanced Policies and Guidelines on Student Affairs and Services."

Aside from this, we hope the Committee would also look into the possibility of establishing mechanisms to address crimes that were already committed in campus i.e. bomb threats, hostage crisis, etc.

Finally, the bills will also reinforce the coordination and collaboration between the campus administrations, the Philippine National Police (PNP), and the Local Government Units (LGUs) to promote the safety and security of the academic community.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

JUDY M. TAGUIWAL

Secretary