



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

IBP Road, Bataasan Pambaransa 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>

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HONORABLE PAOLO BENIGNO "Bam" AQUINO IV

Chairperson
Committee on Youth
Senate of the Philippines
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City

Dear Senator Aquino:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports Senate Bill Nos. 1478 and 1679 introduced by Senator Jinggoy P. Ejercito-Estrada, which aim to create a Local Youth Development Council in every municipality and city and establish a Youth Center in 15 regions in the country. These proposed bills will serve as the venue for the youth in developing their skills and knowledge along youth related programs and services in their locality.

Hereunder are our additional inputs **on SB 1478**:

1. On Sec. 3 (Definition of Terms), the terms "Youth" and "Youth with Special Needs" should be clearly defined. In this case, special needs sub-sector such as youth migrants, internally displaced youth, youth in conflict with the law, victims of violence, youth living with HIV-AIDS, youth with disabilities, out of school youth and working youth should also be considered in this definition.
2. On Sec. 7 (Functions of the Local Youth Development Council)
 - ✦ **Item (j)** should read as: "*To receive/accept donations, bequests, gifts, grants, and contributions from any individuals, non-government agencies, both local and international.*" In line with this function, a "Local Youth Program Fund" should be created with a Terms of Reference (TOR) crafted accordingly to ensure that the funds are used solely to support youth-related activities.
 - ✦ **Item (k)**, the establishment and updating of data bank/profile of the youth may also be included as basis in the creation of apt and suitable programs for youth at the local level.
 - ✦ **Item (m)**, to revise the sentence which will be read as: "*To monitor and evaluate the implementation of programs and projects at the local level.*"
 - ✦ To include the: "*To document best/good practices that can be replicated at the local level.*"

3. On Sec. 8 (Youth Development Plan):

3.1 To consolidate programs and activities of Items (A) and (B) under one category: Youth Development Programs

3.2 To include "Youth Volunteer Programs" as another item.

3.3 To include opportunities for youth participation in local/international events;

4. On Sec. 8, Item A (4): Training and Capability Programs, to involve youth in the following:

4.1 Strengthening the campaign for awareness in disaster management and climate change as one of the topics for the youth.

4.2 Leadership activities that emphasize the development of life skills, within the context of a sustained and caring adult-youth relationship;

4.3 Ecological and climate change issues; and

4.4 Gender and development issues.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


CORAZON JULIANO - SOLIMAN
Secretary