



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>

12 February 2015

HONORABLE MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

Chairperson
Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development
Senate of the Philippines
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City

Dear Senator Binay:

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports Senate Bill Nos. 91 & 92 (Sen. A. Cayetano) and 1446 (Sen. Defensor-Santiago), which seeks to provide protection and welfare for the orphaned, abandoned, neglected or voluntarily committed children.

To contribute to the bills' enhancement, we are recommending the following:

1. SB No. 91: Orphaned, Abandoned, Neglected or Voluntarily Committed Children's Welfare and Protection Act of 2013, introduced by Sen. Alan Peter S. Cayetano

1.1 Sec. 3 - Definition of Terms

- ✦ On item (a): the Child Caring Institution should be registered, licensed, and accredited by the DSWD to ensure compliance with set standards.
- ✦ On item (b): Guardian, to replace the word "owner of the child-caring institution" to "Head or Executive Director of a registered, licensed, and accredited child caring or child placing agency or institution managed by the national government, local government unit, and non-government organization who has actual custody of a minor."
- ✦ To include a definition for "Orphaned Child" which will be read:

"Orphaned Child refers to a child who does not have a family and/or relatives who can assume responsibility for their care."

1.2 Sec. 6 - Hospitalization

To provide free hospitalization to children certified by the DSWD as orphaned, abandoned, neglected or voluntarily committed children.

1.3 Sec. 8 – Incentives to Local Government Units

For purposes of clarity, to specify the types of “additional incentives to LGUs” which would implement a counterpart Program for the orphaned, abandoned, neglected or voluntarily committed children.

1.4 Sec. 9 – Implementing Rules and Regulations

To include the DOH in the drafting of the IRR.

1.5 To include Section for Appropriations for the implementation of program and services to orphaned, abandoned, neglected or voluntary committed children.

2. SB No. 92: Trust Fund for the Abandoned, Neglected or Voluntarily Committed Child of 2013, introduced by Sen. Alan Cayetano

To further study the purpose of the trust fund in relation to the existing duty of the Department and other child-caring agencies/institutions in providing care and support to vulnerable sectors; as to the systems and procedures for earning, maintaining, and availing of the trust fund; and to the over-all impact of the assistance to the clients and to limited government resources.

3. SB No. 1446: Baby Abandonment Prevention Act, introduced by Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago

- ↓ To include a provision on the budgetary requirements to ensure that the proposed functions of the task force would be implemented.
- ↓ To include provision for the development of programs to prevent baby abandonment as well as to strengthen the family as the foundation of the nation.

For consideration of the Committee.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN
Secretary