

**Republic of the Philippines**  
**Department of Social Welfare and Development**

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06 June 2014

**HONORABLE ROGELIO G. ESPINA, M.D.**

Chairman  
Committee on Population and Family Relations  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

**Dear Congressman Espina:**

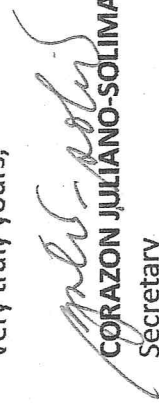
The Department of Social Welfare and Development respectfully submits its comments on House Bill No. 4191, entitled: "An Act Amending Republic Act No. 7432, As Amended By Republic Act No. 9994, Otherwise Known As "An Act To Maximize The Contribution of Senior Citizens To Nation Building, Grant Benefits And Special Privileges And For Other Purposes," introduced by Representatives Rufus B. Rodriguez and Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr.

The "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010" is a social legislation aimed at recognizing the contribution of Filipino seniors to nation-building and providing social protection to them as a marginalized sector, especially those who are considered poor or indigent. However, in consideration of the policy of the Philippines to encourage more foreigners to retire here, and of the principle of reciprocity where elderly Filipinos in certain countries abroad are also enjoying legal protection, the same may be extended to permanent resident aliens in the country. Relative thereto, we recommend the following:

- a. Establishing the long-time residency requirement thru Alien Certificate of Registration, Philippine Retirement Authority ID Card, or an Immigrant Visa under Quota Immigrant scheme; and
- b. The foreign national to secure an OSCA issued ID bearing proof of his/her citizenship/residency status.

For the Committee's consideration.

Very truly yours,

  
**CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN**  
Secretary