

22 July 2025

ATTY. EULOGIO A.M. SABBAN, CESO III

Director IV
Legislative Office, Office of the Deputy
Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs
Office of the President, Malacañang
City of Manila

Dear **Director Sabban**:

In response to your request dated July 14, 2025, we are submitting the attached comments and recommendations on Senate Bill No. 890 / House Bill No. 7240, titled "An Act Optimizing the National Government for Efficient Public Service Delivery". This has been prepared by Dr. Adoracion M. Navarro, PIDS Senior Research Fellow.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this critical discussion. We hope our input will be helpful as the President decides on the consolidated enrolled Senate Bill No. 890 and House Bill No. 7240.

For further inquiries and clarification, you may coordinate with Dr. Navarro, as the PIDS designated handling officer related to this submission. You may contact her via email at anavarro@pids.gov.ph or via landline number +6328877-4000, local 4079.

Very truly yours,

PHILIP ARNOLD P. TUAÑO, PhD
President

**Comments and recommendations on Senate Bill No. 890 / House Bill No. 7240, titled
“An Act Optimizing the National Government for Efficient Public Service Delivery”**

Prepared by Adoracion M. Navarro¹

July 22, 2025

The proposed Government Optimization Act, a consolidation of Senate Bill 890 and House Bill 7240, presents a timely and necessary solution to bureaucratic inefficiency in the Philippines. As the five-year Government Optimization Program (GOP) will streamline government operations by merging, consolidating, or abolishing redundant government agencies and positions, it is expected to cut waste, reduce overlapping functions, and refocus public service delivery on effectiveness and accountability. Since the GOP may also result in the creation of plantilla positions for casual or contractual personnel and job order or contract of service workers who are needed to optimize the functions of government agencies, it is also expected to enhance job security for certain public service workers and make public service delivery more responsive to the needs of citizens. The GOP will also modernize the structure of government and the modernization will not just save costs but ensure that the government serves the people in the most responsive and transparent way possible. By doing all these, the GOP will save taxpayer money and improve the overall performance of our public institutions.

Necessary safeguards are also in place, such as public sector labor representation in the committee on government optimization, sunset clause for the optimization, benefits for the retired and separated personnel, and exemption of certain positions in the coverage of the optimization program (i.e., exemption of teaching positions, military and uniformed personnel, legislature, judiciary, and constitutional bodies).

The PIDS can thus strongly recommend to President Marcos the swift approval of the proposed law. It will provide the legal framework for the GOP and authorize national government officials to carry out the optimization of government functions and structures for better coordination, clearer mandates, and faster service delivery.

¹ Dr. Adoracion M. Navarro, Senior Research Fellow at the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS)