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## Initial Comments of the League of Provinces of the Philippines to the Draft Executive Order (E.O.) Related Social Security System (SSS)

1. The title of the proposed E.O. has practically enumerated all the issues covered therein. A simple title that captures the intent of the E.O. should suffice. As a suggestion, the title may be revised to read:

**MANDATING MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS UNITS, AND ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES TO ENSURE FULL SOCIAL SECURITY PROTECTION TO JOB ORDER AND CONTRACTUAL PERSONNEL, PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES, AND "KASAMBAHAYS"**

2. The proposed E.O. should clearly define who should be considered as job order (JO) personnel or persons hired by agencies on a job order basis. While some CSC Memorandum Circulars and DBM Memorandum Circular mention J.O. personnel and limits such personnel to the outsourcing of certain services (e.g., utility, building and grounds maintenance, messengerial, security and transportation/mobility), there is no clear definition who these persons are and the maximum period to be considered as such before they are considered permanent or contractual employees.

3. Under Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 17, s. 2002, services rendered by J.O. personnel shall not be considered as government service. While the E.O. seeks to provide social security protection to J.O. personnel, the practice of hiring J.O. personnel for a maximum of six (6) months only actually violates the law against "ENDO" or against the Labor Code which provides that personnel who provides services for more than six (6) months should be made a permanent employee.

4. Since government agencies and LGUs are mandated to withhold and remit premium contributions to SSS, there may be a need for a law and the corresponding implementing rules and regulations (IRR) in the management, treatment and handling of such premium contributions by these government agencies and LGUs.

5. Since the proposed E.O. includes SSS registration and clearance as additional eligibility in the procurement of goods and services, there is a need to amend the procurement law or its IRR to include such requirement.

Prepared by: League of Provinces of the Philippines

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