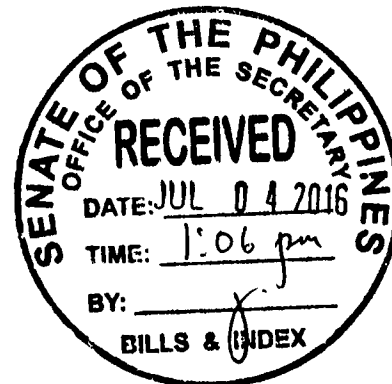


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

S.B. No. 310

Introduced by Senator **SONNY ANGARA**

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4 PS) TO
REDUCE POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4 Ps) is a human development measure that provides conditional cash grants to the poorest of the poor. As of August 2015, there are 4.4 million active household-beneficiaries, of which 570,056 are indigenous households and 217,359 have at least one person with disability. With an average of two to three children per registered household-beneficiary, the program also covers 10.2 million schoolchildren aged 0 to 18.

In partnership with the Commission on Higher Education, the Department of Labor and Employment, and the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges, 4 Ps has enrolled 36,003 beneficiaries in state universities and colleges as of June 2015. Additionally, in partnership with PhilHealth, 4 Ps has covered 4.4 million beneficiaries under the National Health Insurance Program.¹

Recent studies show that the program has reduced the total poverty and food poverty among conditional cash transfer (CCT) beneficiaries by up to 6.7 percentage points. At the national level, estimates show the program reduced both total poverty and food poverty by up to 1.4 percentage points in 2013. According to World Bank, the Philippines' CCT program has grown into one of the largest and best-targeted social safety net programs in the world, with majority of the benefits going to the bottom 40 percent of the country's population.²

The program, however, may be subject to discontinuance by future administrations, despite its promising results in reducing poverty and promoting human capital development. It is thus imperative to institutionalize the 4 Ps through legislation to sustain its success, particularly in addressing the needs of the poor.

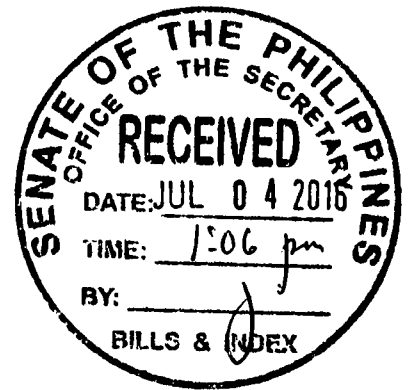
In light of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


SONNY ANGARA

¹ <http://www.gov.ph/programs/conditional-cash-transfer/>

² <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/02/19/world-bank-approves-new-funding-for-philippines-social-safety-net>

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

S.B. No. 310

Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4 PS) TO
REDUCE POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

- 1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "*Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino*
2 *Program (4 Ps) Act.*"
3
- 4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** The State recognizes the need to strengthen the solidarity
5 of the family and actively promote its total development.
6
- 7 The State further recognizes its obligation to promote a just and dynamic social order
8 that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from
9 poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a
10 rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.
11
- 12 The State further recognizes the need to protect the poor, thus, the State hereby
13 declares it a policy to:
- 14 (a) Provide assistance to the poor to alleviate their immediate needs;
15 (b) Break the intergenerational cycle of poverty through investment in human capital and
16 improved delivery of basic services to the poor, particularly education, health, and
17 nutrition;
18 (c) Promote gender equality and empowerment of women;
19 (d) Achieve universal primary education;
20 (e) Reduce child mortality; and
21 (f) Improve maternal health.

1 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** As used in this Act:

- 2 (a) *Case management* refers to a process used by the Department of Social Welfare and
3 Development (DSWD) to enable the household-beneficiaries to improve their
4 functioning by dealing with their difficulties, specifically in complying with the
5 conditions of the Program;
- 6 (b) *Compliance verification* refers to the checking and monitoring done to ensure that the
7 qualified household-beneficiaries comply with the conditions for entitlement set forth
8 by the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4 Ps);
- 9 (c) *Conditional cash grant* refers to the amount being received by the qualified
10 household-beneficiaries who comply with the conditions for entitlement;
- 11 (d) *Extremely poor* refers to households, duly identified by the standardized targeting
12 system, whose income falls short of enabling them to provide even just their
13 nutritional requirements;
- 14 (e) *Grantee* refers to the most responsible adult member of the qualified household-
15 beneficiary authorized to receive the conditional cash transfer;
- 16 (f) *Grievance Redress System* refers to the mechanism of the DSWD which addresses
17 and resolves issues and concerns related to the implementation of the Program;
- 18 (g) *Health facility* refers to a barangay health station, rural health unit or primary hospital;
- 19 (h) *Health service providers* refer to barangay health workers, barangay nutrition
20 scholars and midwives;
- 21 (i) *Poor* refers to households whose income falls below the poverty threshold as defined
22 by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and cannot afford in a
23 sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education
24 housing and other essential amenities of life;
- 25 (j) *Preventive health check-up* refers to health services comprising of complete
26 immunization, deworming, weight monitoring and management of childhood
27 diseases;
- 28 (k) *Program* refers to Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4 Ps) which is the national
29 poverty reduction strategy that provides conditional cash transfer to poor households
30 to improve their health, nutrition and education;
- 31 (l) *Qualified household-beneficiaries* refer to households identified by the DSWD for
32 entitlement of the monthly cash grant;
- 33 (m) *Responsible person* refers to the parent or guardian in the qualified household-
34 beneficiary; and
- 35 (n) *Standardized Targeting System* refers to a system for identifying who and where the
36 poor households are through the generation of socioeconomic database of poor

1 households that is adopted by the national government agencies and implemented
2 by the DSWD.

3

4 **SEC. 4. Selection of Qualified Household-Beneficiaries.** On a nationwide basis, the
5 DSWD shall select qualified household-beneficiaries using a standardized targeting system.
6 The DSWD shall conduct a revalidation of targeting beneficiaries every three (3) years.

7

8 **SEC. 5. Local Verification Committee.** A Local Verification Committee shall be created in
9 every municipality or city composed of two (2) local government unit representatives, an
10 accredited health-service provider from the barangay, a representative of an accredited civil
11 society organization, and the school head as designated by the Department of Education
12 (DepEd).

13

14 The Committee shall be tasked to ensure that the initial list of beneficiaries satisfies
15 the eligibility requirements set forth under this Act.

16

17 **SEC. 6. Conditional Cash Transfer.** Subject to certain conditions, each qualified
18 household-beneficiary shall receive a conditional cash transfer equivalent to five hundred
19 pesos (P500.00) per month for health and nutrition expenses or the equivalent of six
20 thousand pesos (P6,000.00) per qualified household-beneficiary per year.

21

22 A maximum of three (3) children per qualified household-beneficiary shall be given
23 conditional cash grants for educational expenses:

24 (a) Three hundred pesos (P300.00) per month per child enrolled in elementary of the
25 equivalent of three thousand pesos (P3,000.00) per a ten(10)-month school year;

26 (b) Five hundred pesos (P500.00) per month per child enrolled in junior high school or
27 the equivalent of five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) per a ten(10)-month school year;
28 and

29 (c) Seven hundred pesos (P700.00) per month per child enrolled in senior high school or
30 the equivalent of seven thousand pesos (P7,000.00) per a ten(10)-month school
31 year.

32

33 A supplementary education grant of three hundred pesos (P300.00) per month shall be
34 given to the child in elementary or high school who has maintained passing grades in all
35 subjects after the second year of availment of the Program.

36

1 **SEC. 7. Conditions for Entitlement.** All qualified household-beneficiaries shall comply with
2 the following conditions as a requirement for continued program eligibility:

- 3
- 4 (a) Children zero (0) to five (5) years old must receive regular health check-ups and
5 vaccinations;
 - 6 (b) Children six (6) to thirteen (13) years old must avail of deworming pills at least twice
7 a year;
 - 8 (c) Children three (3) to five (5) years old must attend day care or preschool classes at
9 least eighty-five percent (85%) of the time;
 - 10 (d) Children must attend elementary or high school classes at least eighty-five percent
11 (85%) of the time;
 - 12 (e) Pregnant women must avail of pre- and post-natal care and give birth with the
13 assistance of a skilled or trained health care professional in a health facility;
 - 14 (f) At least one (1) responsible person must attend family development sessions and
15 natural family planning sessions conducted by the DSWD, at least once a month;
 - 16 (g) At least one (1) responsible person must join and complete at least two (2)
17 government-recognized or accredited non-government organization (NGO)-
18 sponsored entrepreneurship or livelihood training programs;
 - 19 (h) At least one (1) responsible person must maintain cleanliness in the surroundings
20 and practice proper garbage disposal;
 - 21 (i) At least one (1) responsible person must plant trees in the surroundings; and
 - 22 (j) At least one (1) responsible person must assist, help, or participate in bayanihan
23 projects in their respective barangay or municipality.
- 24

25 **SEC. 8. Noncompliance with Conditions.** The responsible person of a reported qualified
26 household-beneficiary who fails to comply with the conditions set forth in Section 7 of this
27 Act shall at first be notified in writing.

28

29 After four (4) months of noncompliance, the household-beneficiary shall be subject to
30 case management. If, despite the case management, the qualified household-beneficiary
31 continues with noncompliance, the benefits under this Act may be suspended.

32

33 Should the qualified household-beneficiary so notified persist in not complying with
34 the conditions within a period on one (1) year, the conditional cash grant shall be cancelled.

35

36 **SEC. 9. Mode of Cash Transfer.** The conditional cash transfer shall be made by the
37 DSWD. The conditional cash grant shall be received by the grantee or any of the grantee's

1 duly authorized representative on a bimonthly basis through an authorized government
2 depository bank duly identified by the DSWD, using difference appropriate payment modes,
3 including cash card, over-the-counter transaction, money remittance services, conduit rural
4 banks, and cooperatives.

5
6 **SEC. 10. Periodic Assessment.** The amounts indicated in Section 6 of this Act shall be
7 made available to the qualified household-beneficiaries during the first two (2) years of the
8 implementation of this Act and reasonable adjustments may thereafter be made by the
9 President, if necessary, upon recommendation by the DSWD, after taking into account the
10 rates of inflation and similar economic indicators.

11
12 The grant rates may be adjusted by the DSWD if warranted by the changes in the
13 socioeconomic conditions existing at the time. The DSWD shall ensure that the grant rates
14 are sufficient to make a positive impact on health, nutrition and education of grantees:
15 *Provided,* That the DSWD shall ensure that the grant will not serve as a disincentive for
16 family members to work and improve their economic conditions.

17
18 **SEC. 11. Loan Assistance.** Responsible persons who successfully completed the
19 entrepreneurship or livelihood programs required under Section 7 of this Act may be given
20 loan assistance as their initial capital by the appropriate government agency that will
21 implement relevant programs pursuant to Section 16 of this Act.

22
23 **SEC. 12. Five (5)-Year Maximum Limit.** Each qualified household-beneficiary shall receive
24 the conditional cash grant for a maximum period of five (5) years.

25
26 **SEC. 13. Lead Agency.** The DSWD shall serve as the central planning, coordinating,
27 implementing and monitoring body of the Program.

28
29 In the implementation of this Act, the DSWD shall have the following functions:

- 30 (a) Select and use an appropriate and effective and cost-efficient method devised for the
31 purpose of identifying and selecting qualified household-beneficiaries.
32 (b) Identify and select the target household-beneficiaries on the basis of a uniform,
33 objective and transparent selection process;
34 (c) Conduct seminar-workshops and training programs in order to ensure qualified
35 household-beneficiary awareness of the conditions and other actions pertinent to this
36 Act;

- 1 (d) Coordinate with different national and local agencies, including organizations from
2 the private sector to ensure full implementation of statutory commitments herein;
- 3 (e) Set up monitoring and evaluation systems and methodologies on compliance of
4 conditions, implementation of operations, and output and impact assessments. It
5 shall also coordinate with the advisory and monitoring committees at the national,
6 regional and municipal levels to verify compliance once a month using the monitoring
7 and evaluation systems designed for the purpose;
- 8 (f) Recommend to the President measures and policies for the responsive delivery of
9 the commitments under this Act;
- 10 (g) Coordinate with different national and local agencies to maintain and update
11 objective poverty maps which will be checked and cross-checked periodically for
12 duplications and inaccurate or erroneous information;
- 13 (h) Formulate implementing rules and guidelines for the enforcement of this Act;
- 14 (i) Submit an annual report to Congress including, but not limited to, all aspects of its
15 operations, financial status and other relevant data; and
- 16 (j) Perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to the proper
17 implementation of the provisions of this Act.

18

19 **SEC 14. *Advisory Council.*** An Advisory Council shall be created at the municipal, regional
20 and national levels to be headed by the DSWD and may be composed of representatives
21 from the DepEd, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA),
22 Department of Health (DoH), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth),
23 Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Trade and Industry
24 (DTI), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), National Anti-Poverty Commission
25 (NAPC), the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP), the local government unit
26 concerned, and accredited NGOs, as members.

27

28 The Advisory Council is principally tasked to monitor and assess actions and
29 activities relative to the implementation of the Program. It shall also serve as a Grievance
30 Committee tasked to accept complaints and grievances that may arise within their respective
31 territorial jurisdictions, conduct investigation in specific cases and dispose cases filed in
32 connection thereto, using the Grievance Redress System.

33

34 **SEC 15. *Independent Monitoring Committee.*** An Independent Monitoring Committee at
35 the municipal, regional and national level composed of representatives from the private
36 sector and civil society organizations shall be created.

1 The Independent Monitoring Committee is principally tasked to complement the
2 monitoring activities of the DSWD and provide feedback thereto for proper action. It shall
3 submit a report on the results of its monitoring activities relative to the implementation of the
4 Program to the Advisory Council.

5
6 **SEC. 16. *Convergence of Program and Services.*** To ensure that the targeted household-
7 beneficiaries remain non-poor after the prescribed maximum limit for receipt of the
8 conditional cash grant, multi-stakeholder and interagency convergence of programs and
9 services shall be implemented. This shall focus on the enhancement of operational efficiency
10 and strengthening of interagency partnerships for greater impact and sustainability of
11 outcomes.

12
13 **SEC. 17. *Appropriations.*** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall
14 be charged against those authorized in the current and subsequent General Appropriations
15 Acts.

16
17 The appropriation shall continue until the Program has covered sixty percent (60%)
18 of the total number of extremely poor families in the Philippines, as may be determined by
19 the Philippine Statistics Authority at the time of the enactment of this Act. The appropriation
20 shall be included in the annual appropriation of the DSWD.

21
22 **SEC 18. *Penalty.*** Any person, public or private, whether or not acting in conspiracy with
23 public officials, who, by act or omission, inserts or allows the insertion of data or false
24 information, or who diverts from what ought to be contained in the registry, with the view of
25 altering the fact, or aiding in the grant of the money to persons other than the qualified
26 household-beneficiaries, shall be penalized with imprisonment of not less than one (1) month
27 but not more than six (6) months, or a fine of not less than ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00)
28 but not more than twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00), or both imprisonment and fine, at
29 the discretion of the court.

30
31 Administrative sanctions shall be imposed without prejudice to prosecution in the
32 proper courts.

33
34 **SEC 19. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.*** Upon the effectivity of this Act, a
35 congressional oversight committee, hereinafter to be referred to as the 4 Ps Committee, is
36 hereby constituted. The 4 Ps Committee shall be composed of fourteen (14) members with
37 the chairpersons of the Committee on Poverty Alleviation of the House of Representatives,

1 and the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development of the Senate and six
2 (6) additional members from each House, to be designated by the Speaker of the House of
3 Representatives and the Senate President, respectively. This Committee is principally
4 tasked to set the overall framework to monitor and ensure the proper implementation of this
5 Act. It shall likewise determine inherent weaknesses in the law and recommend necessary
6 remedial legislation or executive measures.

7
8 **SEC. 20. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** Within six (6) months from the effectivity of
9 this Act, the Secretary of DSWD shall, in coordination with appropriate government
10 departments and agencies, with the participation of the local government units, promulgate
11 the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

12
13 **SEC. 21. *Separability Clause.*** If any part or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or
14 invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect

15
16 **SEC. 22. *Repealing Clause.*** Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order,
17 Letter of Instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with
18 the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

19
20 **Sec. 23. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
21 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

22
23 Approved,