

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**



'22 SEP 14 P 6:10

**SENATE
P.S.R. No. 218**

RECEIVED BY

INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS**

**RESOLUTION
URGING THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON
PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM OR 4Ps OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE TO CONVENE, WITH AN END IN VIEW OF, CONDUCTING A
SUNSET REVIEW OF REPUBLIC ACT 11310**

WHEREAS, the preliminary results of the Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) in 2021 indicated that there are 3.5 million families who are considered poor and around 19.99 million Filipinos who live below the poverty threshold (PSA, 15 Aug 2022);

WHEREAS, the PSA (Aug 2022), in the same survey, estimated the poverty threshold at PhP 12,030 per month for a family of five and that a family of five needs at least PhP 8,379 per month to meet their basic food requirements;

WHEREAS, in 2008, the Philippine government introduced the conditional cash transfer (CCT) program as an important part of the country's anti-poverty program and commitment to the internationally-agreed development goals (i.e., MDGs, SDG 2030) of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, improve maternal, neonatal, and children's health and nutrition (MNCHN), and promoting gender equality (DSWD, 2009);

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Philippine government institutionalized the country's conditional cash transfer (CCT) program through the enactment of Republic Act 11310 or the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps);

WHEREAS, the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is a "national poverty reduction strategy and a human capital investment program that provides CCT to poor households for a maximum of seven (7) years to improve the health, nutrition and education aspects of their lives¹;

WHEREAS, since the implementation of RA 11310, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) reported that in 2021, a total of 4,372,124 households were served as 4Ps beneficiaries, which is 99.37% of the target 4.4 million households, and an amount of PhP 87.38B was disbursed by the agency for the program;

WHEREAS, during a congressional hearing, the DSWD, through Secretary Erwin Tulfo, expressed that around 850,000 households would be removed from the 4Ps program, and Assistant Secretary Romel Lopez reported that about 187,000 had been delisted for various reasons: households who no longer have children (natural attrition), with improved living condition (non-poor), who are non-compliant, who opted out of the

¹Sec. 4, RA 11310

program, and graduated from the program²;

WHEREAS, even if the household already graduated from the 4Ps program, the household beneficiaries considered non-poor are susceptible and vulnerable to being poor again, given the current conditions and circumstances;

WHEREAS, given the current conditions and circumstances—i.e., the state of calamity and health emergency due to COVID-19, other diseases and natural disasters, the increase in poverty incidence, record high inflation rate, the rising cost of living, high unemployment and underemployment, etc.—there are calls to expand and increase the coverage of 4Ps households, the eligible beneficiaries (e.g., new poor, senior citizens, transport workers, etc.), the conditions for entitlement (e.g., COVID-19 vaccination, health check-up for older people, etc.), and the amount of cash transfers;

WHEREAS, several laws enacted, such as but not limited to RA 11055: Philippine Identification System Act and RA 11315: Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) Act, have direct implications concerning the identification of 4Ps household beneficiaries and delivery of benefits;

WHEREAS, there is a need to review and assess the program's implementation and develop strategies to make it more responsive and effective in achieving its set goal of breaking intergenerational poverty;

WHEREAS, RA 11310 provided a mechanism mandating the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) to conduct an impact assessment to evaluate the effectiveness of the 4Ps, the veracity of the list of household beneficiaries, and the program implementation³;

WHEREAS, aside from periodic assessment, the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee (or the 4Ps Oversight Committee) is the duly mandated body to conduct a sunset review to systematically evaluate the impact of RA 11310, the accomplishment of the program, and the performance of its implementing agencies in aid of legislation⁴;

WHEREAS, as provided under Sec. 21, RA 11310, the sunset review is expected to be conducted within three years since the effectiveness of the law, which the President signed on April 17, 2019, and uploaded in the Official Gazette on May 22, 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to urge the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps Oversight Committee, to convene, with an end view of conducting a sunset review of Republic Act 11310.

Adopted.



²Manila Bulletin, September 13, 2022

³Sec. 10, RA 11310

⁴Sec. 21, RA 11310