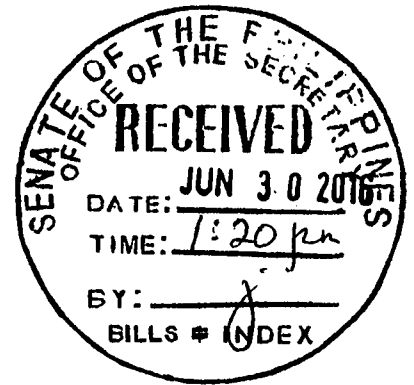


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

S.B. No. 12

Introduced by Senator FRANKLIN M. DRILON

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO
PROGRAM TO ADDRESS POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

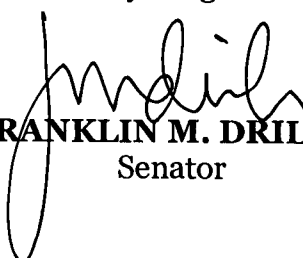
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bill seeks to institutionalize the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development. As of May 27, 2015, the 4Ps has covered 4,424,705 eligible poor households and has become the third largest Conditional Cash Transfer program globally, next only to Brazil (8.8 million households) and Mexico (6.5 million households). Studies show that the program closed about 1/4 of the poor's income gap thereby enabling the poor to move closer to the minimum income level.

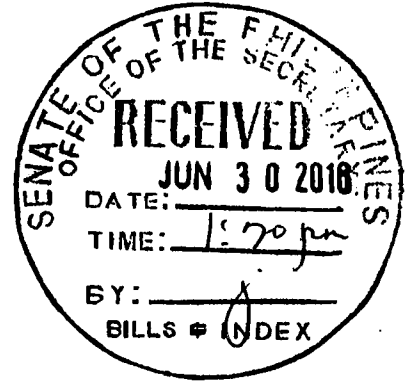
Proven gains of the 4Ps include: improved mothers' access to maternal health by promoting pre-and post-natal care and deliveries in health facilities; improved children's health and access to health care services particularly after availing of vitamin A, iron supplements, deworming pills and undergoing regular weight monitoring in health care facilities; and better access to education by keeping children in school particularly those who are most vulnerable to drop out. In 2015 alone, the program was able to bridge 333,673 children to finish high school.

In addition, the 4Ps has become a platform for eligible poor households to benefit from other social protection programs through internal and external convergence. These include coverage under the National Health Insurance Program by the Philhealth Insurance Corporation, increased access to economic opportunities through employment facilitation and micro-enterprise development through Sustainable Livelihood Program, and entry into higher education institutions through the Students' Grant-in-Aid Program in partnership with the Commission on Higher Education, Department of Labor and Employment and State Universities and Colleges.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Senator

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



SENATE

S.B. No. 12

Introduced by Senator FRANKLIN M. DRILON

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO
PROGRAM TO ADDRESS POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN CAPITAL
DEVELOPMENT AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 “*Philippine*
2 *Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Act*”.

3 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the need to
4 strengthen the solidarity of the family and actively promote its total development.
5 The State further recognizes its obligation to promote a just and dynamic social order
6 that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people
7 from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full
8 employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all. The
9 State furthermore recognizes the need to protect the poor; thus, the State hereby
10 declares it a policy to:

- 11 a. Provide assistance to the poor to alleviate their immediate needs;
- 12 b. Break the intergenerational cycle of poverty through investment in human
13 capital and improved delivery of basic services to the poor, particularly
14 education, health and nutrition;
- 15 c. Promote gender equality and empowerment of women ;
- 16 d. Achieve universal primary education;
- 17 e. Reduce child mortality; and
- 18 f. Improve maternal health

19 SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

- 20 a. Case Management refers to a process used by the Department of Social
21 Welfare and Development (DSWD) to enable the household beneficiaries

- 1 improve their functioning by dealing with their difficulties specifically in
2 complying with the conditions of the program;
- 3 b. Compliance Verification refers to the checking and monitoring done to
4 ensure that the qualified household-beneficiaries comply with the
5 conditions for entitlement set forth by the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino
6 Program;
- 7 c. Conditional Cash Grant refers to the amount being received by the
8 qualified household-beneficiaries who comply with the conditions for
9 entitlement;
- 10 d. Grantee refers to the most responsible adult member of the qualified
11 household-beneficiary authorized to receive the conditional cash transfer;
- 12 e. Grievance Redress System refers to the mechanism of the DSWD which
13 addresses and resolves issues and concerns related to the implementation
14 of the program;
- 15 f. Health Facility refers to a barangay health station, rural health unit or
16 primary hospital;
- 17 g. Health Service Providers refer to barangay health workers, barangay
18 nutrition scholars and midwives;
- 19 h. Poor refers to households duly identified by the National Household
20 Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR or Listahanan), or
21 those families whose income falls below the poverty threshold as defined
22 by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) and cannot afford in a
23 sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health,
24 education, housing and other essential amenities of life.
- 25 i. Preventive Health Check-up refers to health services comprising of
26 complete immunization, deworming, weight monitoring and management
27 of childhood diseases;
- 28 j. Program refers to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, which is the
29 Philippines' version of the conditional cash transfer program and national
30 poverty reduction strategy that provides cash transfer to poor households
31 or families to improve their health, nutrition and education;
- 32 k. Qualified Household-Beneficiaries refer to households or families
33 identified by the NHTS-PR or Listahanan of the DSWD for entitlement of
34 the conditional cash grant;

1 l. Responsible Person refers to the parent or guardian in the qualified
2 household-beneficiary; and

3 m. National Household Targeting System or Listahanan is a standard and
4 objective targeting system that identifies who and where the poor
5 households or families are through the collection and generation of socio-
6 economic data of poor households or families that is adopted by national
7 government agencies and implemented by the DSWD.

8 SECTION 4. *Selection of Qualified Household-Beneficiaries.* – On a
9 nationwide basis, the Department shall select qualified households or families using
10 NHTS-PR/ Listahanan. The DSWD shall conduct a revalidation of that poverty status
11 of the beneficiaries every five (5) years.

12 SECTION 5. *Local Verification Committee.* – A Local Verification Committee
13 shall be created in every municipality or city composed of two (2) local government
14 unit representatives, an accredited health-services provider from the barangay, a
15 representative of an accredited civil society organization, and the school head as
16 designated by the Department of Education (DepEd).

17 The Committee shall be tasked to ensure that the initial list of beneficiaries
18 satisfied the eligibility requirements set forth under this Act.

19 SECTION 6. *Eligible Beneficiaries.* –To be eligible for the cash grants,
20 households or families must meet the following criteria:

21 a. Those classified as poor and near-poor based on NHTS-PR/Listahanan
22 and the poverty threshold issued by the PSA at the time of selection; or
23 those vulnerable households or families living under circumstances
24 associated with poverty such as those in the informal settler sector,
25 homeless families, indigenous peoples, and those in geographically
26 isolated and disadvantaged areas;

27 b. Those households or families which, at the time of registration into the
28 program, have members who are aged 0 to 18 years old or have members
29 who are pregnant; and

30 c. Those who are willing to comply with the conditions specified by this Act.

31 SECTION 7. *Conditional Cash Transfer.* –Beneficiary households shall
32 receive cash grants for three conditionalities: health, education, and family
33 development session (FDS).

1 a. The health grant is aimed to promote improve good health practices and
2 sustained access to health services for children and mothers/pregnant
3 members. The health grant is a fixed amount independent of the number
4 of household members and is tied with attendance in FDS. The beneficiary
5 household shall be paid health grant if it is both compliant with health and
6 FDS every month.

7 b. The education grant is given to a maximum of three (3) children per
8 household/ family, aged 3 to 18 years old, per month within the school
9 year.

10 The amount for health and education grants shall be determined by the
11 DSWD, in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM),
12 taking into account the current needs for health and education; Provided that after
13 the effectivity of this Act, the cash grant shall be reviewed periodically and adjusted
14 to its present value using the Consumer Price Index, as published by the PSA.

15 These grants are to be released bimonthly or every two months to the
16 beneficiaries for the duration of their participation in the program, subject to their
17 compliance with the program conditionalities provided in Section 8 of this Act.

18 SECTION 8. *Conditions for Entitlement.* — All qualified household-
19 beneficiaries shall comply with the following conditions as a requirement for
20 continued program eligibility:

- 21 a. Children zero (0) to five (5) years old must receive regular preventive
22 health check-ups and vaccinations;
- 23 b. Children in elementary must avail of deworming pills at least twice a year;
- 24 c. Children three (3) to four (4) years old must attend day care or its
25 equivalent, and children five (5) years old must attend kindergarten
26 classes, at least fifty percent (50%) of the time;
- 27 d. Children must attend elementary or high school classes at least eighty-five
28 percent (85%) of the time;
- 29 e. Pregnant women must avail of pre-and post-natal care and give birth with
30 the assistance of a skilled health care professional in a health facility;
- 31 f. At least one (1) responsible person of the household-beneficiary must
32 attend family development sessions conducted by the DSWD once a
33 month;

1 SECTION 9. *Forfeiture of Grant and Suspension from the Program.*— The
2 payment of cash grants will be terminated if a household-beneficiary no longer meets
3 the eligibility criteria provided in Section 6 of this Act and/or does not comply with
4 the conditionalities set forth in Section 8 of this Act.

5 If a beneficiary household is found to be non-compliant with the
6 conditionalities in a particular month, the cash grant will not be paid for that month.
7 However, non-compliance to all three conditionalities for at least three (3)
8 consecutive monitoring periods will result in termination of payments and
9 temporary suspension from the program. Cash grants payment will be resumed to
10 suspended households once validated that they are still eligible for the program and
11 that the reasons for their noncompliance are valid.

12 SECTION 10. *Mode of Cash Transfer.* — The conditional cash transfer shall be
13 made by the DSWD. The conditional cash grant shall be received by the grantee or
14 any of the grantee's duly authorized representative on a bi-monthly basis through an
15 authorized government depository bank duly identified by the DSWD, using different
16 appropriate payment modes, including cash card, over-the-counter transaction,
17 money remittance services, conduit rural banks, and cooperatives.

18 SECTION 11. *Adjustment of amount of cash grants.*— The amounts indicated
19 in Section 7 shall be made available to the qualified household-beneficiaries and
20 reasonable adjustments may thereafter be made by the President, if necessary, upon
21 recommendation by the DSWD, after taking into account the rates of inflation and
22 similar economic indicators.

23 The grant rates may be adjusted by the DSWD if warranted by the changes in
24 the socio-economic conditions existing at the time. The DSWD shall ensure that the
25 grant rates are sufficient to make a positive impact on the health, nutrition and
26 education of grantees: provided, that DSWD shall ensure that the grant will not serve
27 as disincentive for family members to work and improve their economic conditions.

28 SECTION 12. *Lead Agency.*— The DSWD shall serve as the central planning,
29 coordinating, implementing and monitoring body of the program.

30 In the implementation of this Act, the Department shall have the following
31 functions:

- 32 a. Select and use an appropriate, effective and cost efficient method devised
33 for the purpose of identifying and selecting qualified household-
34 beneficiaries;

- 1 b. Identify and select the target household-beneficiaries on the basis of a
2 uniform, objective and transparent selection process;
- 3 c. Conduct seminar-workshops and training programs in order to ensure
4 qualified household-beneficiary awareness of the conditions and other
5 actions pertinent to this Act;
- 6 d. Coordinate with different national and local agencies, including
7 organizations from the private sector to ensure full implementation of
8 statutory commitment herein;
- 9 e. Set-up monitoring and evaluation systems and methodologies on
10 compliance of conditions, implementation of operations, and output and
11 impact assessments. It shall also coordinate with the Advisory and
12 Monitoring committees at the national, regional and municipal levels to
13 discuss and address program implementation concerns at their respective
14 levels ;
- 15 f. Recommend to the President measures and policies for the responsive
16 delivery of the commitments under this Act;
- 17 g. Coordinate with different national and local agencies to maintain and
18 update objective poverty maps which will be checked and cross-checked
19 periodically for duplications and inaccurate or erroneous information;
- 20 h. Formulate implementing rules and guidelines for the enforcement of this
21 Act;
- 22 i. Submit an annual report to Congress including, but not limited to, all
23 aspects of its operations, financial status and other relevant data; and
- 24 j. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to the
25 proper implementation of the provisions of this Act;

26 To ensure the effective implementation of the program, the DSWD shall
27 closely coordinate with the DepEd and the Department of Health (DOH), as regards
28 the household-beneficiaries' availment of education and health services. DepEd and
29 DOH shall form their own counterpart Program Management Offices that will
30 coordinate closely with DSWD regarding CCT implementation. DSWD, DepEd, and
31 DOH shall hold joint budget planning sessions to ensure that sufficient budgetary
32 support is given to the beneficiaries.

33 SECTION 13. *Program Monitoring and Evaluation.*— The DSWD, together
34 with the DepEd and DOH, shall conduct a periodic impact evaluation study to assess

1 the overall effectiveness of the program in meeting its health and education
2 objectives and to further improve the delivery of the program. The Secretary of
3 DSWD shall furnish a copy of the results of the study to Congress.

4 SECTION 14. *Advisory Council.*—An advisory Council shall be created at the
5 municipal, regional and national levels to be headed by the DSWD and may be
6 composed of representatives from the, Department of Health, Department of Labor
7 and Employment, Department of Interior and Local Government, National Anti-
8 Poverty Commission, Department of Budget and Management, National Economic
9 and Development Authority, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples,
10 Philippine Commission on Women, Council for the Welfare of Children, National
11 Nutrition Council, and Population Commission, the local government unit
12 concerned, and accredited NGOs, as members. Also, at least one (1) parent leader
13 should be included in the Municipal Advisory Council.

14 The Advisory Council is principally tasked to monitor and assess actions and
15 activities relative to the implementation of the program. It shall also serve as a
16 Grievance Committee tasked to accept complaints and grievances that may arise
17 within their respective territorial jurisdictions, conduct investigations in specific
18 cases and dispose cases filed in connection thereto, using the Grievance Redress
19 System.

20 SECTION 15. *Independent Monitoring Committee.* — An Independent
21 Monitoring Committee at the national level composed of representatives from the
22 private sector and Civil Society Organizations (CSO) shall be created.

23 The Independent Monitoring Committee is principally tasked to complement
24 the monitoring activities of the DSWD and provide feedback thereto for proper
25 action. It shall submit a report on the results of its monitoring activities relative to
26 the implementation of the program to the Advisory Council.

27 SECTION 16. *Sustainability and Convergence of Programs and Services.*— A
28 multi-stakeholder and inter-agency convergence of programs and services shall be
29 implemented, focusing on the different needs of the household-beneficiaries during
30 their coverage under the program, beyond education and health services, and
31 preparing the household-beneficiaries for their transition after the maximum limit
32 for the receipt of the cash grant, or any earlier exit from the program. The
33 convergence of programs and services, and the preparation and implementation of a
34 transition program, shall focus on the enhancement of operational efficiency and

1 strengthening of inter-agency partnerships for greater impact and sustainability of
2 outcomes.

3 SECTION 17. *Appropriations.* — The amount necessary to carry out the
4 provisions of this Act shall be charged against those authorized in the current and
5 subsequent General Appropriations Acts.

6 SECTION 18. *Penalty.* — Any person, public or private, whether or not acting
7 in conspiracy with public officials, who, by act or omission, inserts or allows the
8 inserts or allows the insertion of data or false information, or who diverts from what
9 ought to be contained in the registry, with the view of altering the fact, or aiding in
10 the grant of the money to persons other than the qualified household-beneficiaries,
11 and cash card pawning shall be penalized with the imprisonment of not less than one
12 (1) month but not more than six (6) months, or a fine of not less than Ten Thousand
13 Pesos (P10,000.00) but not more than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00), or
14 both imprisonment and fine, at the discretion of the court.

15 Administrative sanctions shall be imposed without prejudice to prosecution in
16 the proper courts.

17 SECTION 19. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.*— Upon the
18 effectivity of this Act, a congressional oversight committee, hereafter to be referred to
19 as the 4Ps Committee, is hereby constituted. The 4Ps Committee shall be composed
20 of fourteen (14) members with the chairpersons of the Committee on Poverty
21 Alleviation of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Social Justice,
22 Welfare and Rural Development of the Senate and six (6) additional members from
23 each House, to be designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
24 the Senate President, respectively. This Committee is principally tasked to set the
25 overall framework to monitor and ensure the proper implementation of this Act. It
26 will likewise determine inherent weaknesses in the law and recommend necessary
27 remedial legislation or executive measures.

28 SECTION 20. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*—Within six (6) months
29 from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development
30 shall, in coordination with appropriate government departments and agencies, with
31 the participation of the local government units, promulgate the necessary rules and
32 regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

1 SECTION 21. *Separability Clause.*— If any provision or part of this Act is held
2 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
3 remain in full force and effect.

4 SECTION 22. *Repealing Clause.* — Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
5 executive order, letter or instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation
6 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, is hereby repealed,
7 modified, or amended accordingly.

8 SECTION 23. *Effectivity.*—This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
9 following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
10 circulation.

Approved,