

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 207

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
RECEIVED	
DATE:	<u>30 JUN 2016</u>
TIME:	<u>6:20 PM</u>
BY:	<u>[Signature]</u>
REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by Representative MICAELA S. VIOLAGO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Poverty — now afflicting a quarter of the more than 100 million Filipinos, remains to be the most critical socio-economic problem. To keep poverty at a minimum level, if not to eradicate it altogether, our government continue to formulate and design sustainable and comprehensive programs which will ensure the delivery of appropriate and sufficient basic services to the people such as food security, educational, and health care services among others.


One such program is the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) also known as the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Program. The 4Ps is a flagship and anti poverty program of the government, patterned after the Latin American Conditional Cash Transfer Program, that grants conditional cash subsidy to the poorest households in the country to improve their health, nutrition and education. The conditionalities of the grant are primarily for the parents to send their children to school and to health care centers on a regular basis.

In assessing conditional cash transfers in Latin America, a World Bank panel of economists in 2009 noted a substantial decline in poverty incidence in program participants as well as the encouragement of good health and education practices among the family. The same have been observed among the pilot beneficiaries of the 4Ps program.

This bill aims to to institutionalize the implementation of the program by providing for the statutory authority therefor, ensure continuous funding and lay down the basic parameters for the determination of target-beneficiaries and conditions for their compliance.

This bill, except for the provision on inclusion of indigent senior citizens in the target beneficiaries, was approved on Third Reading at the House of Representatives in the 16th Congress on February 1, 2016.

The early passage of this bill is strongly recommended.


MICAELA S. VIOLAGO
Second District, Nueva Ecija

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Introduced by Representative **MICAELA S. VIOLAGO**

AN ACT
INSTUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) TO
REDUCE 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:

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes the need to strengthen the solidarity of the family and actively promote its total development.

The State further recognizes its obligation to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard or living, and an improved quality of life for all.

The State furthermore recognizes the need to protect the poor; thus, the State hereby declares it a policy to:

- a. provide assistance to the poor to alleviate their immediate needs;
- b. break the intergenerational cycle of poverty through investment in human capital and improved delivery of basic services to the poor, particularly education, health and nutrition;
- c. promote gender equality and empowerment of women;
- d. achieve universal primary education;
- e. reduce child mortality; and
- f. improve maternal health.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act.

- a. *Case Management* refers to a process used by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to enable the household-beneficiaries improve their functioning by dealing with their difficulties specifically in complying with the conditionalities of the program;
- b. *Compliance Verification* refers to the checking and monitoring done to ensure that the qualified household-beneficiaries comply with conditions for entitlement set forth by the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program;
- c. *Conditional Cash Grant* refers to the amount being received by the qualified household-beneficiaries who comply with the conditions for entitlement;
- d. *Extremely Poor* refers to households, duly identified by the standardized targeting system, whose income falls short of enabling them to provide even just their nutritional requirements;
- e. *Grantee* refers to the most responsible adult member of the qualified household-beneficiary authorized to receive the conditional cash transfer;
- f. *Grievance Redress System* refers to the mechanism of the DSWD which addresses and resolves issues and concerns related to the implementation of the Program;
- g. *Health Facility* refers to a barangay health station, rural health unit or primary hospital;
- h. *Health Service Providers* refer to barangay health workers, barangay nutrition scholars and midwives;
- i. *Poor* refers to households whose income falls below the poverty threshold as defined by the National Economic Authority (NEDA) and cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential amenities of life, including indigent senior citizens as referred to under Republic Act No. 9994 or Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010;
- j. *Preventive Health Check Up* refers to health services comprising of complete immunization, deworming, weight monitoring and management of childhood diseases;
- k. *Program* refers to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) which is the national poverty reduction strategy that provides conditional cash transfer to poor households to improve their health, nutrition and education;
- l. *Qualified Household-Beneficiaries* refer to households identified by the DSWD for entitlement of the monthly conditional cash grant;
- m. *Responsible Person* refers to the parent or guardian in the qualified household-beneficiary; and
- n. *Standardized Targeting System* refers to a system for identifying who and where the poor households are through the generation of socio-economic

database of poor households that is adopted by national government agencies and implemented by the DSWD.

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

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

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

SEC. 6. Conditional Cash Transfer. – Subject to certain conditions, each qualified household-beneficiary shall receive a conditional cash transfer equivalent to Five hundred pesos (Ph P500.00) per month for health and nutrition expenses or the equivalent of Six thousand pesos (PhP6,000.00) per qualified household-beneficiary per year.

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

- a. Three hundred Pesos (P300.00) per month per child enrolled in elementary or the equivalent of Three thousand pesos (PhP3,000.00) per a 10-month school year;
- b. Five hundred Pesos (P500.00) per month per child enrolled in junior high school or the equivalent of Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) per a 10-month school year; and
- c. Seven Hundred Pesos (P700.00) per month per child enrolled in senior high school or the equivalent of Seven thousand pesos (P7,000.00) per a 10-month school year.

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

A longevity grant of Five hundred pesos (P500.00) per month for health expenses or the equivalent of Six thousand pesos (PhP6,000.00) per year shall be given to an indigent senior citizen per qualified household-beneficiary, in addition to the social pension provided under Republic Act No. 9994 or the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010.

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

