Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 3517

Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programs aim to reduce poverty by making welfare programs conditional upon the receivers' actions. The government (or a charity) only transfers the money to persons who meet certain criteria. These criteria may include enrolling children into public schools, getting regular check-ups at the doctor's office, receiving vaccinations, or the like.

This CCTs seek to help the current generation in poverty, as well as breaking the cycle of poverty for the next through the development of human capital.

Some few development initiatives have been evaluated as rigorously as CCT programs. The implementation of conditional cash transfer programs has been accompanied by systematic efforts to measure their effectiveness and understand their broader impact on household behavior.

CCTs have affected not only the overall level of consumption, but also the composition of consumption. There is a good deal of evidence that households that receive CCTs spend more on food and, in the food basket, on higher-quality sources of nutrients than do households that do not receive the transfer but have comparable overall income or consumption levels.

CCTs have resulted in sizeable reductions in poverty among recipients—
Most especially when the transfer has been sufficient, well targeted, and structured in a way that does not discourage recipients from taking other actions to escape poverty.

This House Bill seeks to foster the **continuity** and **acceleration** of the Conditional Cash Transfer program.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

MICHAEL L. ROMERO Ph.D.
AN ACT

CREATING A MANDATORY CASH TRANSFER PROGRAM FOR THE TWELVE (12) MILLION EXTREME POVERTY STRICKEN FILIPINOS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY – It is hereby a declared policy of the state to create social development programs thru the national government that provides conditional cash grants to extremely poor families to improve their health, nutrition and education.

a. It shall hereby be a policy of the state to create a Mandatory Cash transfer Program for the twelve (12) million extremely poverty stricken Filipinos.

b. It shall hereby be a policy of the state to promote poverty alleviation schemes in a successive and progressive manner.
SECTION 2. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six (6) months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 3. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS – The departments and agencies charged, to be lead by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) with carrying out the provisions of this Act, shall within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 4. REPEALING CLAUSE – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,