Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

6060

House Bill No. __________

Introduced by Representative Presley C. De Jesus, PHILRECA Party List
Representative Godofredo N. Guya, RECOBODA Party List
Representative Sergio C. Dagoooc, APEC Party List
Representative Adriano A. Ebcas, Ako Padayon Pilipino Party List

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Breaking the cycle of poverty has always been the core of Republic Act 11310 otherwise known as the “Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)”. Since the year 2007, the program has been implemented by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) alongside other agencies to combat extreme poverty, illiteracy, infant mortality, and to improve the health conditions of the poorest of the poor.

The program, according to a World Bank study\(^1\), has reduced poverty in the Philippines by an average of 1.4% per year which translates to roughly around 1.5 million Filipinos. Other than the aforementioned, the program has also made positive impacts on literacy, health condition, and livelihood of target households identified through the National Household Targeting System.

According to the study, there has been an increase in investments in livestock and machineries made by 4Ps Households which implies attempts to set-up businesses and small-scale industries; an event which is well within the projected outcomes of the said program.

Since its discovery and instrumentalization, electricity has been essential not only to numerous industries but also in improving human life in modern society. Tools, machines, and other implements such as appliances and lighting fixtures that contribute to improving living conditions and assist in performing labor cannot be used without electricity.

It can be argued that electricity, given its utility, has become an indispensable resource for people living in modern society and that inaccessibility to the aforementioned resource is an indicator of substandard living conditions which, unfortunately, still affect numerous households hence the existence of the 4Ps Program.

In light of the aforementioned, this bill aims to improve the living conditions of the 4Ps Households and to accelerate the growth of these small-scale industries or businesses by making electricity, a necessity in modern life, accessible to even the poorest Filipinos.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

PRESLEY C. DE JESUS  
Party-list, PHILRECA

SERGIO C. DAGOOC  
Party-list, APEC

ADRIANO A. EBCAS  
Party-list, Ako Padayon Pilipino

GODOFREDO N. GUYA  
Party-list, RECOBODA
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"AN ACT
EXPANDING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM"

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

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Expanded Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act"

Section 2. Section 2. Declaration of 11310 of R.A 11310 is hereby amended as follows:

"Declaration of Policies. -The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order whereby uplifting its citizens and marginalized sectors from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

(g) Improve maternal health;
(h) Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all; and
(i) Achieve sustainable rural development through access to electricity for all."
Section 3. Section 4 of R.A. 11310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 4. The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).
- The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is the national poverty reduction strategy and a human capital investment program that provides conditional cash transfer to poor households for a maximum period of seven (7) years, to improve the health, nutrition, access to electricity, and education aspect of their lives. The National Advisory Council (NAC) may recommend a longer period under exceptional circumstances."

Section 4. Section 7 of R.A. 11310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 7. Conditional Cash Transfer to Beneficiaries. -The Advisory Council shall determine the amount of conditional cash transfer to beneficiaries with the following schemes:

(d) Health and nutrition grant shall not be lower than Seven hundred fifty pesos (₱750.00) per month for a maximum of twelve (12) months per year.

The health/nutrition grant component aims to promote healthy practices and family development, improve the health nutritional status of pregnant and post-partum mothers, infants and young children, and increase the use of health services by the household-beneficiary. The health grant is a fixed amount and does not depend on the number of members in the household.

(e) Electric utility grant shall not lower be than Five hundred pesos (₱500.00) per month for a maximum of twelve (12) months per year.

The electric utility grant component seeks to increase accessibility to electricity of household-beneficiaries which, as a result, will improve the living conditions of families and stimulate the growth of small scale/family-owned business of household-beneficiaries. The electric utility grant is a fixed amount and does not depend on the number of members in the household."
Section 5. Section 15 or R.A.11310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 15. Advisory Council. - An Advisory Council shall be created at the regional and national levels to be headed by the DSWD. The regional advisory councils and NAC shall have, as members, representatives from the DSWD, Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and the National Electrification Administration (NEA). The regional advisory councils and NAC shall also have, as additional members, two (2) representatives from accredited nongovernmental organizations working or monitoring social welfare service programs.

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Section 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Social Welfare and Development shall, in coordination with the appropriate government departments and agencies with the participation of the electric cooperatives, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Section 7. Separability Clause - If for any cause, any part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the rest of the provisions shall remain in force and in effect.

Section 8. Repealing Clause – All laws, decrees, proclamations, issuances, or ordinances that are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 9. Effectivity Clause - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the publication in the Official Gazette in at least two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.