

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3887

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our present administration under President NoyNoy Aquino has launched a very great project that aims to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality, reduce child mortality and improve maternal health. It seeks to alleviate the immediate need (short term poverty alleviation) of the poor by providing cash assistance and to break the intergenerational poverty cycle through investments in human capital.

This project is called Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, more popularly known as the "4Ps". It is a human development program of the national government that invests in the health and education of poor households particularly of children aged 0-14 years old. It is patterned after the

conditional cash transfer scheme implemented in other developing countries.

The Pantawid Pamilya mainly provides cash grants to beneficiaries provided that they comply with the set of conditions required by the program. The households in the municipalities are screened and the poorest among them are selected based on certain proxy variables such as ownership of assets, type of housing, education of the household head, livelihood of the family and access to water and sanitation facilities. After determining their eligibility, cash assistance is regularly distributed to the registered member of a poor household.

To date, Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program operates in 79 provinces covering 1484 municipalities and 143 key cities in the entire country. The program has 3,927,917 registered households all in all.

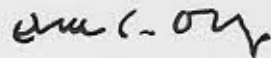
The 4Ps Program provides cash grants to the registered households as follows:

- P6,000 a year or P500 per month per household for health and nutrition expenses; and
- P3,000 for one school year (10 months) or P300/month per child for educational expenses. A maximum of three children per household is allowed.

- A household with three qualified children receives a subsidy of P1,400/month during the school year or P15,000 annually as long as they comply with the conditions. The cash grants shall be received by the most responsible person in the household, usually the mother, through a Land Bank cash card.

When it comes to the educational provisions, it is noticeable though that the 4ps program only covers primary education (meaning, preschool to high school) for children up to 14 years of age, and provides a very budgeted stipend in the amount of P300.00 per month for each child. While we truly commend the efforts of our government to alleviate poverty through this program, we also believe that such minimal amount is barely sufficient to effectively afford destitute children a decent and serious education.

We are not here to undermine this great project of the government, instead, we are here to help the government execute its program and achieve its objectives more efficiently and effectively. This bill therefore seeks to allot automatic additional financial assistance and scholarship grant to poor but deserving students whose families are covered by the 4Ps program.



ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

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**“AN ACT GRANTING AUTOMATIC ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIP GRANT TO CHILDREN
OF A HOUSEHOLD COVERED BY THE PANTAWID
PAMILYANG PIIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps)”**

Section 1. Title. This Act shall be known as the “*The 4Ps Automatic Scholarship Act of 2013*”.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the state to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. Corollarily, the state shall assign the highest budgetary priority to education.

Section 3. Definition of Terms.

Child – as referred to in this Act, a child shall pertain to a person under eighteen years old.

Household – pertains to one family unit that is qualified to be beneficiaries of the 4Ps Program.

4Ps Program – pertains to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program which is basically a human development program of the national government that invests in the health and education of poor households.

Section 4. Additional Monthly Stipend. Every child belonging to a family which is covered under the 4Ps Program shall receive an additional monthly stipend of Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00), provided he or she is enrolled in a school for the period during which the stipend is to be distributed.

Section 5. Required Attendance. Every child who is receiving additional financial aid and scholarship grants shall be present at least 85% of the required school days.

Section 6. *College Allowance.* Every child or dependent belonging to a family which is covered under the 4Ps Program and who has finished high school and has enrolled in a college or university under the regular load (units required per sem), shall be given a monthly stipend of One Thousand Pesos (P1000.00) in lieu of the Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00) mentioned in Section 4 hereof. The stipend shall subsist for so long as the child is enrolled, has attended at least 85% of the required school days and has no delinquency records and no dropped subjects.

Section 7. *Vocational College Allowance.* Every child or dependent belonging to a family which is covered under the 4Ps Program and who has finished high school and has enrolled in a vocational college or institution shall be given an additional monthly stipend of Eight Hundred Pesos (P800.00) in lieu of the Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00) mentioned in Section 4 hereof. The stipend shall subsist for so long as the child is enrolled in said vocational school, has attended at least 85% of the required school days and has no delinquency records.

Section 8. *Scholarship Grants.* Priority shall be given to intelligent and deserving students whose families are covered by the 4Ps Program with respect to available Scholarship Grants from Local Government Units, third party sponsors and other persons/individuals.

Section 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective and immediate implementation of this Act.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, letters of instructions, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is judicially declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions of this Act not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity Clause.* This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED.