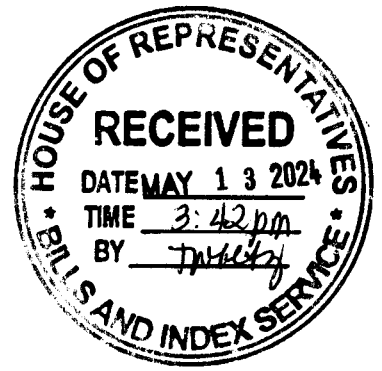




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City



NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10388

Introduced by 4Ps Partylist Representative
JC M. ABALOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is the government's flagship poverty reduction initiative. Studies by the World Bank and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) underscore its pivotal role in enhancing the socioeconomic well-being of beneficiary households and its significant contributions to nationwide poverty alleviation. Furthermore, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) report in 2020 noted positive outcomes, including improved child nutrition and education, enhanced access to maternal and child health services, and sustained high levels of school enrolment and attendance among early participants.

However, despite these positive results, the battle to eradicate poverty remains challenging. The latest data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reveals a minimal decline in poverty rate from 23.7 percent in the first half of 2021 to 22.4 percent in the same period in 2023. Given that rate, the number of 4Ps household beneficiaries is still high at 4,177,368 in the first quarter of 2024. Consequently, the caseload still averages 800 households per City/Municipal Link, which is well above the ideal ratio of 1:300.

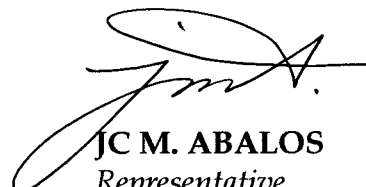
For the success of the country's poverty program initiative to continue, it is then imperative to fortify its effective implementation. One current method in place is engaging Parent Groups and Parent Leaders to work with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the City/Municipal Links. Parent Leaders serve as crucial intermediaries between program administrators and

beneficiaries within their respective communities. Their grassroots connections and intimate understanding of local dynamics enable them to foster trust, facilitate communication, and amplify community voices.

Recognizing the value of this dynamic, the bill endeavors to optimize the involvement of Parent Leaders by establishing their roles and responsibilities and providing them with allowances to support the performance of their functions such as conducting meetings, updating beneficiary profiles, and organizing monthly family development sessions. Additionally, the measure underscores the significance of providing parent leaders with structured training, knowledge and skill enhancement, and other educational opportunities to help in carrying out their tasks. The bill also emphasizes the critical importance of Parent Groups as registered organizations or associations.

Acknowledging the pressing need for City/Municipal Links to have additional support, the engagement of parent leaders emerges as a strategic approach to bridge the gap in the development worker and 4Ps household-beneficiaries ratio to ensure more efficient and personalized assistance to beneficiaries and, ultimately, success in our fight to reduce poverty.

In light of the above, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



JC M. ABALOS
Representative
4Ps Partylist



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**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PANTAWID FAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) THROUGH PARENT
LEADERS ENGAGEMENT, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippine Congress
assembled:*

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “4Ps Parent Leaders
Act”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State shall 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 of living, and an improved quality of life
for all.

Towards this end, the State shall implement measures to break
intergenerational poverty through investments in human capital and the
enhancement of basic service delivery to impoverished sectors, particularly
bolstering education, healthcare, nutrition, and comprehensive childhood care and
development programs.

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

- (a) ***Parent Group*** refers to a cluster of 20 to 40 parents, each member representing an active 4Ps household beneficiary within an area or community and are members of an organization or association recognized and duly registered by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), or any appropriate government registration agency.
- (b) ***Parent Leader*** refers to an elected member of a Parent Group, or selected by the City/Municipal Link based on a set of criteria in cases where an election among the Parent Group members is impracticable, who shall serve as a point person or community leader of a Parent Group for a prescribed term of service.
- (c) ***Assistant Parent Leader*** refers to an elected member of a Parent Group, or selected by the City/Municipal Link based on a set of criteria in cases where an election among the Parent Group members is impracticable, who shall assist a Parent Leader of a Parent Group for a prescribed term of service.

SEC. 4. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover Parent Leaders elected or selected to represent their Parent Groups to directly and primarily engage in providing support services to beneficiaries of Republic Act No. 11310, otherwise known as the “Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act”.

The DSWD is hereby mandated as the lead agency in the implementation of this Act. The DSWD shall formulate a guideline of requirements and criteria in the election and selection of one (1) Parent Leader and one (1) Assistant Parent Leader from each duly recognized Parent Group to perform functions that shall strengthen the effective implementation of the 4Ps Act.

SEC. 5. *Functions.* –

- (a) A Parent Leader shall assist a City/Municipal Link in the performance of the following:
 - 1. Maintain and monitor City/Municipal caseload of 4Ps beneficiaries;
 - 2. Facilitate the conduct of community development activities, in coordination with the City/Municipal Social Welfare Development Office and other key stakeholders, of 4Ps beneficiaries;
 - 3. Facilitate, review, and monitor submission of complaints and grievances of 4Ps beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries;

4. Conduct Social Welfare and Development Indicators (SWDI) enumeration and validation;
5. Conduct interviews, home visits, field visitation, counseling, and case management of 4Ps household beneficiaries;
6. Validation of target household beneficiaries;
7. Monitor compliance to program conditionalities of 4Ps beneficiaries;
8. Monitor the eligibility of 4Ps beneficiaries; and
9. Conduct information dissemination.

(b) An Assistant Parent Leader shall lend support to a Parent Leader in the performance of their duties, and assume the role of a substitute when a Parent Leader is unable to perform their functions.

SEC. 6. *Allowances.* – Parent Leaders and Assistant Parent Leaders shall receive a monthly allowance of Five hundred pesos (Php500.00) to use for incidental expenses related to the performance of their tasks. The prescribed amount under this Act shall be adjusted upon the review and recommendation of the National Advisory Council (NAC) of the 4Ps Act.

SEC. 7. *Enhancement Program.* – The DSWD shall provide for a system of continuing education and skills, training, and knowledge enhancement programs for Parent Leaders and Assistant Parent Leaders.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* – The amount needed for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the current year's appropriations of the DSWD. Thereafter, the appropriation necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD, in coordination with CHED, SEC, Department of Education (DepEd), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and other pertinent government agencies and stakeholders, shall formulate the rules and regulations to comprehensively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason or reasons, any portion or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining portions or provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* – The Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,