

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1434



Introduced by Representative LEILA M. DE LIMA

**AN ACT PROMOTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
EMPLOYMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AMONG PANTAWID
PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) ADULT BENEFICIARIES, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11310, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN
ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM
(4PS)"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The provision of adequate and responsive social services remains a fundamental obligation of the State. No less than Article II, Section 10 of the 1987 Constitution mandates: "[t]he State shall promote social justice in all phases of national development." In furtherance of this Constitutional vision and mandate, the State should uphold its duty to provide accessible and quality education, and promote the health and well-being of its people to empower and capacitate them to uplift their lives.

The unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be felt today. Worse, it overturned the gains of the government's decades-long poverty reduction efforts. The compounded effects of persistent external threats, inflationary pressures, and recurring natural disasters further intensified the socio-economic vulnerabilities of many Filipino households, many of whom still struggle to meet their basic needs. While pre-pandemic data estimates around six million Filipinos were lifted out of poverty in two years with the government's continued poverty reduction interventions,¹ data from a 2024 survey of the Social Weather Stations (SWS) showed that more Filipinos—17.4 million in December 2024 compared to 16.3 million in September 2024—found themselves poor, with self-rated poverty rising to its highest level in 21 years.²

¹ Vera, B. (8 August 2020). 5.5M more poor people feared. *Philippine Daily Inquirer*. Retrieved from <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1318413/5-5m-more-poor-people-feared>.

² Fuentes, A. (8 January 2025). More Filipinos 'poor' as self-rated poverty hits highest level in 21 years: SWS. Retrieved from <https://www.abs-cbn.com/news/business/2025/1/8/more-filipinos-poor-as-self-rated-poverty-hits-highest-level-in-21-years-sws-1629>.

Cash transfer programs around the world have been seen to be one of the most effective policy responses to support people during a crisis.³ The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), which this Representation, as former Senator, helped in institutionalizing as principal author and sponsor of Republic Act No. 11310 during the 18th Congress, has served as a flagship social protection program of the government. This continues to be widely recognized for its role in mitigating the economic burdens experienced by many Filipino families.

Success stories of hundreds of thousands of 4Ps beneficiaries who are now considered as “self-sufficient” based on the Social Welfare and Development Indicators (SWDI) are clear proof of the effectiveness of the program. With an established mechanism for the targeted distribution of assistance to poor households nationwide, the program helps cushion the socio-economic shocks that affect their access to basic needs.

Regrettably, the current focus of 4Ps remains limited to beneficiaries aged 0 to 18 years. This excludes adult members of beneficiary households, despite the fact that they bear the primary responsibility of generating income and ensuring the overall welfare of the family. In this proposed measure, the scope of the program will be expanded to include comprehensive assistance for adult members of 4Ps households, such as educational support, livelihood initiatives, employment facilitation, and entrepreneurial development.

Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) in 2023 revealed that 2.5 percent of the household population aged 25 years and older had not completed any grade level or academic year.

This underscores the urgent need to strengthen inclusive access to education, especially for adults, through the provision of appropriate educational interventions. It is with this principle that this measure proposes the promotion of adult education through the Alternative Learning System (ALS) program, coupled with targeted employment training and entrepreneurship development programs. These interventions aim to help adult beneficiaries to attain self-sufficiency and contribute to the upliftment of the general well-being of their households and communities. The program further seeks to empower adult beneficiaries to choose the form of assistance most aligned with their skills and aspirations—be it education, livelihood, or entrepreneurship—thereby promoting personal autonomy, dignity, productivity, and inclusive growth.

A similar bill had been passed on third and final reading at the House of Representatives during the 19th Congress.

If this measure is passed into law, we expect optimum delivery of service to the targeted 4Ps adult beneficiaries by improving their skills and knowledge, which will increase their chances of finding employment or starting their own business and in the long-run, freeing themselves from the chains of hunger and poverty.

³ COVID-19: How cash transfers can save lives and livelihoods. (27 June 2020). Retrieved from <https://conference.ibfnet.group/2020/06/27/covid-19-how-cash-transfers-can-save-lives-and-livelihoods/>.

Expanding and strengthening 4Ps would definitely help break the "intergenerational cycle of poverty" in the country.

The expeditious approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



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PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) ADULT BENEFICIARIES, AMENDING
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ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM
(4PS)”**

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

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

3
4 SEC. 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 11310 is hereby amended to read, as
5 follows:

6
7 “SEC. 2. Declaration of Policies. – The State shall promote a just and dynamic
8 social order thereby uplifting its citizens and marginalized sectors from poverty through
9 policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising
10 standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

11
12 The State recognizes the need to foster social justice as provided for in Article
13 XIII of the 1987 Constitution, as follows:

14 “x x x

15
16 (g) Improve maternal health; [and]

17
18 (h) Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all[.];

19
20 **AND**

21
22 **“(I) PROMOTE EDUCATION AMONG ADULT BENEFICIARIES THROUGH**
23 **ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM, ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING, AND**
24 **EMPLOYMENT TRAINING TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. ”**

1 SEC. 3. Section 7 of the same Act is amended to read, as follows:

2
3 "SEC. 7. Conditional Cash Transfer to Beneficiaries. – The Advisory Council
4 shall determine the amount of conditional cash transfer to beneficiaries with the
5 following schemes:

6 "x x x "(c) Conditional cash transfer grant per child enrolled in senior high school
7 shall not be lower than Seven hundred pesos (P700.00) per month per child for a
8 maximum of ten (10) months per year[.];

9 [and] "(d) Health and nutrition grant shall not be lower than Seven hundred fifty
10 pesos (P750.00) per month for a maximum of twelve (12) months per year[.];

11
12 **AND**

13
14 **"(E) THE COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION GRANT, WHICH REFERS TO A**
15 **CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER THAT IS USED TO FINANCE MEALS AND**
16 **TRANSPORTATION RELATED TO THE AVAILMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION**
17 **UNDER THIS ACT, MUST NOT BE LOWER THAN FIVE HUNDRED PESOS**
18 **(P500.00) PER INSTANCE PER ADULT BENEFICIARY OF THE ADULT**
19 **EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

20
21 **"x x x."**

22
23 SEC. 4. Section 11 of the same Act is amended to read, as follows:

24
25 "SEC. 11. Conditions for Entitlement. – All qualified household-beneficiaries
26 shall comply with all of the following conditions as a requirement for continued program
27 eligibility:

28
29 (e) Children five (5) to eighteen (18) years old must attend elementary or
30 secondary classes at least eighty-five (85%) of their time; [and] "(f) At least one (1)
31 responsible person must attend family development sessions conducted by the
32 DSWD, at least once a month[.];

33
34 **AND**

35
36 **(G) AT LEAST ONE (1) ADULT BENEFICIARY MUST JOIN AND COMPLETE**
37 **ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TRACKS OF ADULT EDUCATION:**

38
39 **(1) NON-FORMAL EDUCATION THROUGH THE ALTERNATIVE LEARNING**
40 **SYSTEM (ALS) TRACK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED). THE**
41 **ALS TRACK REFERS TO A PARALLEL LEARNING SYSTEM THAT PROVIDES A**
42 **VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE EXISTING FORMAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION**
43 **AND ENCOMPASSES BOTH NON-FORMAL AND INFORMAL SOURCES OF**
44 **KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS;**

45
46 **(2) ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRACK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND**
47 **INDUSTRY (DTI) AND DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND**
48 **DEVELOPMENT (DSWD). THIS REFERS TO INTERVENTIONS WHICH FOCUS ON**
49 **THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MICRO-ENTERPRISE THROUGH ENHANCEMENT OF**
50 **SKILLS, PROVISION OF FINANCIAL CAPITAL AND BUILDING OR RE-BUILDING**

1 PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ASSETS, AND WHICH COVERS PRODUCT
2 DEVELOPMENT, MARKETING, AND BASIC BUSINESS FINANCE; OR
3

4 (3) EMPLOYMENT TRACK OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
5 DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) OR THEIR ACCREDITED PRIVATE
6 SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS. THIS REFERS TO PROGRAMS
7 THROUGH WHICH LEARNERS AND WORKERS ARE PROVIDED WITH
8 LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES TO ACQUIRE, UPGRADE, OR BOTH, THEIR
9 ABILITY, KNOWLEDGE AND BEHAVIOR PATTERN REQUIRED AS
10 QUALIFICATIONS FOR A JOB OR RANGE OF JOBS IN A GIVEN
11 OCCUPATIONAL AREA. THE AVAILMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION SHALL
12 COMMENCE ON THE SECOND YEAR OF ENROLLMENT IN THE 4PS. AS USED
13 IN THIS ACT, ADULT EDUCATION REFERS TO INTERVENTIONS THAT
14 IMPROVE TECHNICAL OR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, FURTHER
15 DEVELOP ABILITIES, ACQUIRE OR ENRICH KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND
16 COMPETENCIES IN A NEW FIELD THROUGH ALTERNATIVE LEARNING
17 SYSTEM TRACK, ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRACK OR EMPLOYMENT TRACK.
18

19 SEC. 5. Section 13 of the same Act is amended to read, as follows:
20

21 "SEC. 13. ~~[Livelihood]~~ **POST SKILLS TRAINING** Interventions. – ~~[Qualified]~~
22 **THE ADULT EDUCATION** ~~[household-]~~ beneficiaries shall be given priority in the
23 availment of the modalities and interventions ~~[under DSWD's Sustainable Livelihood~~
24 ~~Program (SLP) or other appropriate or similar programs offered by other government~~
25 ~~agencies or accredited private institutions.]~~ **OF THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS**
26 **AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THEIR SELECTED TRACK OF ADULT**
27 **EDUCATION.**
28

29 (A) ADULT EDUCATION BENEFICIARIES WHO SUCCESSFULLY
30 COMPLETED THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRACK SHALL BE GIVEN
31 ASSISTANCE BY THE DTI TO ENSURE EASE OF ESTABLISHING A MICRO OR
32 SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND THE LINK TO THE TARGET CLIENTELE
33 OF THE 4PS ENTREPRENEUR.
34

35 (B) THE ADULT EDUCATION BENEFICIARIES WHO SUCCESSFULLY
36 COMPLETED THE EMPLOYMENT TRACK SHALL BE GIVEN JOB FACILITATION
37 ASSISTANCE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE).
38

39 (C) THE ADULT EDUCATION BENEFICIARIES WHO SUCCESSFULLY
40 COMPLETED NON-FORMAL EDUCATION USING THE ALS TRACK BY THE
41 DEPED UNTIL THEY FINISH SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SHALL BE GIVEN
42 ASSISTANCE TO ENSURE THEIR PURSUIT OF HIGHER LEARNING OR
43 EMPLOYMENT.
44

45 ~~"[The household beneficiary shall also be given priority in the availment of the~~
46 ~~employment facilitation services provided by the SLP or other employment programs~~
47 ~~of appropriate government agencies implementing the same.]"~~

1 SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
2 executive order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions
3 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
4

5 SEC. 7. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
6 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the
7 Philippines

Approved,