

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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3995**



Introduced by **Representative RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA**

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE *PAYAPA AT MASAGANANG PAMAYANAN*
(*PAMANA*) PROGRAM AS THE FLAGSHIP GOVERNMENT STRATEGY FOR
PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine State has long recognized that sustainable peace cannot be achieved by military means alone. Lasting peace requires addressing the socioeconomic roots of armed conflict: poverty, underdevelopment, weak governance, and historical injustice. This is the context in which the *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* Program was conceived and implemented by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU).

The PAMANA Program has served as the government's peace and development framework for conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable communities. By delivering roads, schools, water systems, health facilities, livelihood support, and other essential services, PAMANA has helped reduce the conditions that breed armed conflict and has demonstrated to local populations the tangible dividends of peace.

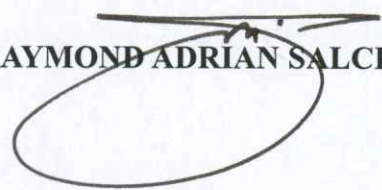
Independent assessments and partner evaluations, including those of the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, have confirmed that PAMANA projects strengthen trust in government, expand access to basic services, and foster community participation in governance. Moreover, PAMANA has served as a key mechanism to implement socioeconomic commitments under peace agreements, including the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro and other normalization processes.

Despite its demonstrated effectiveness, PAMANA remains a programmatic initiative dependent on the priorities of each administration. Its continuity and sustainability have not been guaranteed by law. Without institutionalization, gains achieved in former conflict areas remain vulnerable to shifts in budgetary priorities and political transitions.

This bill therefore seeks to **institutionalize the PAMANA Program as the permanent flagship strategy of the government for peace and development**. It designates the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity as the lead implementing agency, mandates convergence with line agencies and local government units, and ensures annual appropriations under the General Appropriations Act. It also requires the integration of PAMANA projects into local development investment programs, thereby mainstreaming peacebuilding into the everyday work of governance.

By institutionalizing PAMANA, this measure ensures that the socioeconomic foundations of peace will no longer be subject to the uncertainties of political change. It establishes a permanent mechanism through which peace agreements can be supported, conflict-affected communities can rebuild, and the country can reap the dividends of peace through inclusive development.

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


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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the *PAMANA Peace and Development Act of 2025*.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote lasting peace by addressing the socioeconomic roots of armed conflict, reducing inequalities in conflict-affected and vulnerable communities, and ensuring that peace agreements are supported by tangible programs that uplift lives and sustain development. The State shall institutionalize the *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* Program as the flagship strategy to deliver peace dividends to communities long affected by violence, armed conflict, or historical injustice.

SEC. 3. *Institutionalization of the PAMANA Program.* The *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* Program, as designed and implemented by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU), is hereby institutionalized as the permanent flagship program of the national government for peace and development.

SEC. 4. *Program Objectives.* The *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* Program shall have the following objectives:

- (a) Promote inclusive and sustainable peace by addressing the structural drivers of armed conflict, including poverty, underdevelopment, and exclusion;
- (b) Deliver peace dividends by providing basic services, infrastructure, and livelihood support to conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable areas;

- (c) Strengthen local institutions for peace, security, and development;
- (d) Mainstream conflict-sensitive and peace-promoting approaches in national and local governance; and
- (e) Harmonize peacebuilding efforts with national development priorities and local government plans.

SEC. 5. *Core Program Components.* The *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* Program shall include, but not be limited to, the following components:

- (a) *Community Development and Service Delivery* – provision of basic social services, livelihood programs, and local infrastructure projects in conflict-affected areas;
- (b) *Institutional Capacity-Building* – strengthening the capacity of local government units and civil society partners in peacebuilding, participatory governance, and conflict-sensitive planning;
- (c) *Policy and Convergence Mechanisms* – ensuring alignment of *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* projects with the Philippine Development Plan, peace agreements, and local development plans;
- (d) *Peace Dividends for Former Conflict Areas* – support for reintegration, normalization, and rehabilitation of former conflict-affected communities; and
- (e) *Monitoring and Evaluation* – establishing clear accountability and impact measurement systems for peace and development outcomes.

SEC. 6. *Lead Agency.* The Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU) shall serve as the lead agency in the implementation of the *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* Program. It shall coordinate with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health (DOH), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and other relevant agencies.

SEC. 7. *Funding.* The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA) under the budget of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU), with allocations for implementing partner agencies. The government may also mobilize official development assistance (ODA), grants, and partnerships consistent with the objectives of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Mainstreaming in Local Governance.* Local government units (LGUs) shall integrate *Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)* projects into their local development investment programs and annual investment plans. Local government units shall provide counterpart support, in cash or in kind, as determined by program guidelines.

SEC. 9. *Reporting.* The Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU) shall submit to Congress an annual report on the implementation of the

Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA) Program, including funded projects, geographic coverage, peace and development outcomes, and audited financial performance.

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU), in consultation with the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations.

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

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, and administrative issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,