

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Diliman, Quezon City

**20<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**House Bill No. 4088**



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Introduced by: **HON. MARK ANTHONY G. SANTOS**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*Article XV, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution* recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation and mandates the State to strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development. It also affirms the duty of the State to protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution and to support parents in the upbringing of their children.

In pursuit of this constitutional mandate, the State has enacted measures to protect and empower vulnerable family structures, including Republic Act No. 11861, or the Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act. This law has made critical strides in addressing the needs of solo parents who bear the full burden of raising and supporting their children.

However, one of the most pressing challenges faced by solo parents remains the lack of stable, affordable, and secure housing. Many solo parents struggle to provide adequate shelter due to limited income, lack of access to formal housing finance, or rigid requirements that exclude them from traditional programs.

As a proponent of providing housing for all Filipinos, this proposed amendment seeks to strengthen the State's commitment to solo parents by introducing housing loan assistance or financial subsidies for housing, specifically tailored to meet their needs. By prioritizing solo parents in the allocation of government low-cost housing projects and providing more flexible and affordable terms of payment or subsidized housing loans, the State can help ensure that every solo parent and their children have access to safe and dignified shelter.

This measure aligns with the intent of the Constitution and the objectives of *RA 11861* by promoting family security, social justice, and inclusive development—recognizing that adequate housing is not merely a basic need, but a fundamental human right.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, loopy 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a small upward tick at the end.

**MARK ANTHONY G. SANTOS**  
Representative, Lone District of Las Piñas

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**AN ACT PROVIDING HOUSING LOAN ASSISTANCE OR FINANCIAL  
SUBSIDY TO SOLO PARENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11861, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
"EXPANDED SOLO PARENTS WELFARE ACT"**

*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 “Solo Parents Housing Assistance Act of 2025.”

**SECTION 2. *Amendment.*** — Section 15 of Republic Act No. 8972 as amended by Section 12 of Republic Act No. 11861, otherwise known as the “Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act,” is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Section 15. Additional Benefits. - A solo parent shall be entitled to the following additional benefits:

(a) Means-, pension-, and subsidy-tested monthly cash subsidy of One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) per month per solo parent who is earning a minimum wage and below, to be allocated by the concerned city or municipal government in accordance with Section 17(b)(2)(iv) of the Local Government Code: Provided, That for fifth (5th) class municipalities and lower, as well as the five hundred (500) municipalities with the highest poverty incidence based on the latest municipal-level small area poverty estimates, cash subsidy allocations may

be taken from the Gender and Development (GAD) budget and the amount of cash subsidy per recipient may be dependent on the amount of the GAD budget: Provided, further, That the solo parent under this section is not a recipient of any other cash assistance or subsidy from any other government programs: Provided, finally, That a beneficiary who is also a senior citizen or a person with disability (PWD) may continue receiving senior citizen or PWD benefits without forfeiting the benefits under this Act;

(b) A ten percent (10%) discount and exemption from the value-added tax (VAT) on baby's milk, food and micronutrient supplements, and sanitary diapers purchased, duly prescribed medicines, vaccines, and other medical supplements purchased from the birth of the child or children until six (6) years of age of a solo parent who is earning less than Two hundred fifty thousand pesos (P250,000.00) annually, subject to adjustment in accordance with the provisions on the exempt taxable income under the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC), as amended by Republic Act No. 10963, otherwise known as the "Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN)": Provided, That nothing in this section shall violate the provisions of Republic Act No. 10028, otherwise known as the 'Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009';

(c) Automatic coverage under the National health Insurance Program (NHIP) being administered by the PhilHealth with premium contributions to be paid by the National Government: Provided, That the premium contribution of solo parents in the formal economy shall be shared equally by their employees and the National Government;

(d) Prioritization of solo parents, particularly solo mothers in re-entering the work force, and their children as applicable, in apprenticeships, scholarships, livelihood training, reintegration programs for OFWs, employment information and matching services, and other poverty alleviation programs of the TESDA, DTI, CHED, DepEd, DOLE, DMW and other related government agencies, subject to the standard eligibility and qualifications; and

**(e) Solo parents whose monthly income falls below the poverty threshold as defined by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) shall be entitled to:**

- (1) Prioritization and allocation in housing projects with liberal terms of payment on government low-cost housing projects in accordance with housing law provisions.**
- (2) Housing loan assistance programs with reduced interest rates and flexible payment terms, subject to eligibility and guidelines as may be prescribed by the concerned housing agencies**
- (3) A direct monthly rental or housing subsidy not exceeding P1,000**

**per month for a maximum of 12 months, renewable subject to need and budget availability.**

To avail of the additional benefits under this section, the solo parent shall present a Solo Parent Identification Card (SPIC): Provided, That in availing the additional benefits under paragraph (2) of this section, the solo parent booklet shall also be presented."

**SECTION 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** — Relevant government agencies, in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, experts, and other government instrumentalities, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

**SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.*** — If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.*** — All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6. *Effectivity.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,