

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4522



Introduced by: Hon. Iris Marie D. Montes

AN ACT
ENSURING THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY OF 4Ps BENEFICIARIES, AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11310, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4PS) ACT"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 9, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution expressly provides that "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."

Pursuant to this, Republic Act No. 11310 was enacted into law to institutionalize the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development - a government program that provides conditional cash grants to the poorest of the poor.

This Program serves as a platform for eligible poor households to benefit from other social protection programs through internal and external convergence such as the National Health Insurance Program coverage by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, increased access to economic opportunities through employment facilitation and micro-enterprise development through Sustainable Livelihood Program, and entry into higher education institutions through the Students' Grant-in-Aid Program in partnership with the Commission on Higher Education, Department of Labor and Employment and State Universities and Colleges.

Through 4Ps, targeted household-beneficiaries benefited from improved mothers' access to maternal health by promoting pre-and post-natal care and deliveries in health facilities; improved children's health and access to health care services particularly after availing of vitamin A, iron supplements, deworming pills and undergoing regular weight monitoring in health care facilities; and better access to education by keeping children in school particularly those who are most vulnerable to drop out.

Recently, it was reported that the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is looking into the possible amendments to the 4Ps law to make it more responsive after 17 years of implementation. In particular, the DSWD is

considering a “need-based” approach where beneficiaries should exit the program only if their well-being is improved.¹

More resources, are also being recommended by the World Bank Group, to be transferred to 4Ps beneficiaries given the depreciation of 4Ps grants due to inflation and the increased vulnerability exacerbated by COVID-19 and subsequent shocks.²

In this light, this bill seeks to allow beneficiaries to continue in the program beyond a maximum of seven years in order to ensure that they have achieved self-sufficiency before exiting in the program. It also aims to transfer more resources to 4Ps beneficiaries given the depreciation of 4Ps grants due to inflation.

The bill likewise incorporates provisions for tertiary education for children of 4Ps beneficiaries and an after-care program for exiting or graduating members.

In view thereof, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


IRIS MARIE D. MONTES
Kababaihan Kabalikatan para sa Kapakanan
at Kaunlaran ng Bayan (4K) Party-list

¹ DSWD mulls amendments to 4Ps law, INQUIRER.net, August 08, 2025 (<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2093311/dswd-mulls-amendments-to-4ps-law>) Accessed on 11 August 2025

² Strengthening the Philippines’ Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, Policy Note (<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099070524014030836/pdf/P181138-c5ee5f6f-02fa-43fe-a985-55bcb65c4742.pdf>) Accessed on 11 August 2025

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4522

Introduced by: Hon. Iris Marie D. Montes

AN ACT
ENSURING THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY OF 4Ps BENEFICIARIES, AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11310, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4PS) ACT"

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Patuloy ang Pagtawid sa Pamilyang Pilipino Act".

SEC. 2. Section 4 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 4. The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps). - The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is the national poverty reduction strategy and a human capital investment program that provides conditional cash transfer to poor households for a maximum period of seven (7) years, to improve the health, nutrition and education aspect of their lives. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT HOUSEHOLD-BENEFICIARIES WHO ARE STILL POOR AFTER THE LAPSE OF THE MAXIMUM PERIOD, AS DETERMINED BY THE LATEST ASSESSMENT USING THE ADOPTED STANDARDIZED TARGETING SYSTEM, SHALL REMAIN IN THE PROGRAM FOR A MAXIMUM PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS. The National Advisory Council (NAC) may recommend a longer period under exceptional circumstances."

SEC. 3. Section 6 of the Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 6. Eligible Beneficiaries. - Farmers, fisherfolks, homeless families, indigenous peoples, those in the informal settler sector and those in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas including those in areas without electricity shall be automatically included in the standardized targeting system to be conducted by the DSWD: Provided, That to be eligible for the cash grants, households or families must meet the following criteria:

(a) Classified as poor and near-poor based on the Standardized Targeting System and the poverty threshold issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) at the time of selection;

(b) Have members who are aged zero (0) to TWENTY TWO (22) [eighteen (18)] years old or have members who are pregnant at the time of registration; and

(c) Willing to comply with the conditions specified by this Act.”

SEC. 4. Section 7 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 7. Conditional Cash Transfer to Beneficiaries. - The Advisory Council shall determine the amount of conditional cash transfer to beneficiaries with the following schemes:

(a) Conditional cash transfer grant per child enrolled in day care and elementary programs shall not be lower than FIVE [Three] hundred pesos (P500.00) [(P300.00)] per month per child for a maximum of ten (10) months per year;

(b) Conditional cash transfer grant per child enrolled in junior high school shall not be lower than SEVEN [Five] hundred pesos (P700.00) [(P500.00)] per month per child for a maximum of ten (10) months per year;

(c) Conditional cash transfer grant per child enrolled in senior high school shall not be lower than NINE [Seven] hundred pesos (P900.00) [(P700.00)] per month per child for a maximum of ten (10) months per year; [and]

(d) CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER GRANT PER CHILD ENROLLED IN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING OR HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL NOT BE LOWER THAN NINE HUNDRED PESOS (P900.00) PER MONTH PER CHILD FOR A MAXIMUM OF TEN (10) MONTHS PER YEAR; AND

(E) Health and nutrition grant shall not be lower than ONE THOUSAND [Seven hundred fifty] pesos (P1,000.00) [(P750.00)] per month for a maximum of twelve (12) months per year.

The health/nutrition grant component aims to promote healthy practices and family development, improve the health nutritional status of pregnant and post-partum mothers, infants and young children, and increase the use of health services by the household-beneficiary. The health grant is a fixed amount and does not depend on the number of members in the household.”

SEC. 5. Section 11 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 11. Conditions for Entitlement. - All qualified household-beneficiaries shall comply with all of the following conditions as a requirement for continued program eligibility:

(a) Pregnant women must avail of pre-natal services, give birth in a health facility attended by a skilled health professional, and receive post-partum care and post-natal care for her newborn;

(b) Children zero (0) to five (5) years old must receive regular preventive health and nutrition services including check-ups and vaccinations;

(c) Children one (1) to fourteen (14) years old must avail of deworming pills at least twice a year;

(d) Children three (3) to four (4) years old must attend day care or pre-school classes at least eighty-five percent (85%) of their time;

(e) Children five (5) to eighteen (18) years old must attend elementary or secondary classes at least eighty-five percent (85%) of their time; [and]

(f) CHILDREN ENROLLED IN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING OR HIGHER EDUCATION MUST ATTEND CLASSES AT LEAST EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT (85%) OF THEIR TIME; AND

(G) At least one (1) responsible person must attend family development sessions conducted by the DSWD, at least once a month.

Any or all of the conditions for entitlement may be suspended by the DSWD Secretary during times of calamities, war and armed conflicts."

SEC. 6. A new Section 14 is hereby inserted after Section 13 of the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 14. AFTER-CARE PROGRAM FOR EXITING BENEFICIARIES. - THE DSWD SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE), THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), AND OTHER AGENCIES OF GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE PROVISION OF POST SERVICES INTERVENTION THROUGH A PACKAGE OF SUPPORT SERVICES TO EXITING AND GRADUATED HOUSEHOLDS, WHICH SHALL BE PROVIDED AS PART OF THE SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM FOR 4Ps BENEFICIARIES WITH THE AIM OF REDUCING POVERTY AND VULNERABILITY.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH), DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED), COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), TECHNICAL EDUCATION SKILLS AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA), DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, AND DOLE SHALL FACILITATE AND ADDRESS THE IDENTIFIED SUPPLY-SIDE GAPS AND CONCERNS FOR HEALTH, NUTRITION, EDUCATION, LIVELIHOOD, AND EMPLOYMENT IN A TIMELY MANNER TO ENABLE THE BENEFICIARIES SUSTAIN THE GAINS OF THE PROGRAM. THEY SHALL DESIGN APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND INTERVENTIONS TO VULNERABLE GROUPS AND SECTORS WITHIN THE 4Ps SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, WOMEN, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE (IPs), ESPECIALLY THOSE IN GEOGRAPHICAL ISOLATED AND DISADVANTAGE AREAS.

ALL PROVINCES, CITIES, AND MUNICIPALITIES SHALL ENACT A COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL SOCIAL PROTECTION ORDINANCE, WHICH SHALL MANDATE THE DELIVERY OF ADEQUATE SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES FOR 4Ps HOUSEHOLDS AFTER THEIR GRADUATION FROM THE PROGRAM. THEY SHALL INCLUDE 4Ps-RELATED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES IN THEIR BUDGET ALLOCATION THROUGH THE ANNUAL INVESTMENT PLAN (AIP), COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CDP) AND/OR LOCAL POVERTY REDUCTION ACTION PLAN (LPRAP) TO COMPLEMENT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 4Ps PROGRAM."

SEC. 7. Section 14 of the same Act is hereby renumbered as Section 15 and all succeeding sections of the same Act are hereby renumbered accordingly.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* - Should any provision of this Act be found unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of this Act, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Act.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*— All laws, decrees, letters of instruction, resolutions, orders or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby-repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity Clause.*— This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,