

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6328



Introduced by SWERTE Party-list Representative
ARLYN P. AYON

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE EXPANDED SOLO PARENTS WELFARE ACT,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11861,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SOLO PARENTS WELFARE
ACT"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to address gaps in the implementation of existing laws for solo parents, specifically Republic Act No. 8972, as amended by RA 11861. Despite existing provisions, many solo parents continue to face delays or denial of benefits, inconsistent issuance of identification cards, and uneven compliance by Local Government Units (LGUs). This Act ensures that all solo parents fully enjoy the benefits to which they are entitled.

The proposed measure guarantees the enforcement of all benefits, including cash subsidies, educational and livelihood assistance, parental leave, work flexibility, and priority services. It strengthens funding mechanisms by mandating LGU allocations for solo parent programs and providing additional national appropriations to ensure that lack of local funds does not hinder implementation.

To enhance coordination, monitoring, and enforcement, the proposed measure establishes the National Office for Solo Parents Affairs (NOSPA) under the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Office for Solo Parents Affairs. This is imperative so that there will be a specific office that will primarily oversee the welfare of the solo parents, as well as see to it that the legislative measures for the solo parents are fully and effectively implemented. On the other hand, the Offices for Solo Parents Affairs (OSPA) in cities and municipalities shall function as the frontline implementing bodies at the local level.

With guaranteed annual funding, this Act strengthens social protection for solo parents, promotes equitable access to benefits, ensures transparency and

accountability, and safeguards the welfare and dignity of solo parents and their families. Its immediate enactment is therefore earnestly sought.

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



ARLYN P. AYON
Representative
SWERTE Party-list

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HOUSE BILL NO. 6328

Introduced by SWERTE Party-list Representative
ARLYN P. AYON

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ENFORCEMENT OF BENEFITS AND
PRIVILEGES OF SOLO PARENTS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8972, AS AMENDED BY 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 “The Strengthened Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act of 2025.”

Section 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 11861 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is the policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that ensures 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. The State shall also promote social justice in all phases of national development, value the dignity of every human person and guarantee full respect for human rights. Towards these ends, the government shall:

- (a) Support the natural and primary rights and duty of solo parents in rearing their children by providing for their basic needs, and extending to them assistance in social service and welfare benefits, with the end in view of uplifting their status and circumstances; and
- (b) Adhere to international agreements and national laws on families.”

The State shall ensure that all solo parents are able to fully

access the benefits mandated under this Act. To achieve this, the national government shall provide mandatory, sustainable, and adequate funding, strengthen implementation mechanisms, and ensure uniform compliance across all Local Government Units (LGUs).

The State shall establish effective monitoring, enforcement, and support systems to guarantee that every solo parent receives the benefits due to them under this Act.”

Section 3. A new section to be denominated as Section 12-A of RA 11861, to read as follows:

“Section 12-A. A new section to be denominated as Section 15-A of the same Act is hereby added to read as follows”

Section 15-A – Enforcement of Benefits. — All benefits under this Act including discounts, priority services, parental leave, work flexibility, educational assistance, and monthly subsidies—shall be strictly enforced.”

Section 4. A new section to be denominated as Section 12-B of RA 11861, to read as follows:

“Section 12-B. A new section to be denominated as Section 15-B of the same Act is hereby added to read as follows”

Section 15-B – Augmentation of Local Government Unit (LGU) Funds. —

(a) All Local Government Units (LGUs) shall allocate budget chargeable against their Gender and Development allocation for the implementation of Solo Parent cash subsidy programs and services, including operations of the Office for Solo Parent Affairs (OSPA), benefit administration, and support services.

(b) LGUs shall be eligible to receive additional augmentation funds from the national government based on the following criteria:

- 1. Population of registered solo parents,**
- 2. Local poverty incidence,**
- 3. Program utilization and absorptive capacity, and**
- 4. Compliance with reporting and performance standards set by the DSWD.**

- (c) LGU may not refuse, suspend, delay, or otherwise limit the implementation of this Act on the ground of insufficient local funds. National-level appropriations under this Act shall serve as the primary funding source, and LGU allocations shall function as supplemental support.**
- (d) Any LGU found to have willfully failed or refused to allocate the required funding or implement the mandated programs shall be required by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to submit a justification on why it should not be meted with administrative sanctions, among others.”**

Section 5. A new section to be denominated as Section 14-A of RA 11861, to read as follows:

“Section 14-A. A new section to be denominated as Section 17-A of the same Act is hereby added to read as follows”

Section 17-A – Creation/Establishment of NOSPA in the DSWD — A National Office for Solo Parents Affairs is hereby established in the DSWD whose head shall be appointed by the DSWD Secretary with the rank and designated position as may be deemed appropriate by the said Secretary.

The DSWD NOSPA shall have the following functions:

- (a) Plan, recommend, implement, and monitor programs, projects and activities for the solo parents;**
- (b) Organize and federate the solo parents from the provincial up to the national level in coordination with the DSWD Regional Directors and Provincial Social Welfare Development Officers;**
- (c) Implement the issuance of national identification cards for the solo parents;**
- (d) Recommend a commensurate social pension for indigent solo parents akin to the social pensions for senior citizens;**
- (e) Recommend to appropriate authority additional benefits for the solo parents other than those already provided under this Act;**
- (f) Ensure that the social and welfare benefits for the solo parents are faithfully implemented;**
- (g) Encourage, facilitate, and support the organization of national officers for the solo parents;**
- (h) Regularly update the roster of the solo parents nationwide;**
- (i) Act as the information and liaison national center for the solo parents; and**
- (j) Such other functions as may be provided by law and by the DSWD Secretary.**

Section 6. A new section to be denominated as Section 17-B of the same Act is hereby added to read as follows:

“Section 17-B. Creation/Establishment of OSPAs. An Office for Solo Parents Affairs is hereby established in the office of the mayor, to be headed by a designate of the mayor, who shall be assisted by the Community Development Officer in the discharge of his functions.

The designate shall, as far as practicable, be a bona fide solo parent, or in the absence thereof, the said designate shall be chosen at the discretion of the mayor.

The OSPA shall have the following functions:

- a) Plan, recommend, implement, and monitor programs, projects, and activities for the solo parents;**
- b) Organize and federate the solo parents from the barangay and up to the city or municipal level;**
- c) Regularly update the roster of solo parents;**
- d) Implement in coordination with the community development officer, the issuance of uniform identification cards that are valid nationwide;**
- e) Act as the information and liaison center for the solo parents; and**
- f) Such other functions as may be provided by law, ordinance or executive order of the mayor.”**

Section 7. Section 14 is hereby of RA 11861 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 14. A new section to be denominated as Section 20 of the same Act is hereby added to read as follows:

"Section 20. SPIC and Booklet. - The SPO of the province or city, or the SPD of the municipality shall review and verify the documents submitted by the applicant and shall issue the SPIC and booklet, if applicable, within ~~seven (7)~~ five working days from receipt of complete documents. In case of dispute, the Municipal/City/Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (M/C/PSWDO), as the case may be, shall resolve the same within five (5) working days.

No Local Government Unit (LGU) shall impose, require, or condition the issuance of a Solo Parent Identification Card on any documents, fees, or procedures other than those expressly provided under the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Act. Any attempt to add additional requirements shall be considered a violation

of this Act and shall be subject to administrative sanctions.

The SPIC and booklet are valid for one (1) year.

A Provisional Solo Parent Identification Card shall be issued immediately upon submission of complete initial requirements. The provisional ID shall be valid for a period of sixty (60) days and shall entitle the applicant to all benefits under this Act, unless specifically limited by the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The provisional ID shall remain valid while verification is ongoing and shall not be withheld, delayed, or denied without justifiable cause.”

Section 8. A new paragraph is hereby inserted after Section 26 (b) of RA 11861, to read as follows:

“Section 26.

(c) Any LGU official, government employee, or officer tasked with implementing this Act who willfully refuses, delays, or fails to implement any provision of this Act, including the issuance of Solo Parent IDs, disbursement of funds, reporting, or compliance with NOSPAs directives, shall be subject to the following progressive penalties:

First offense: Written reprimand and mandatory compliance training;

Second offense: Fine of ₱20,000 to ₱50,000;

Third offense: Suspension of one (1) to six (6) months;

Repeated or willful violations: Referral to the Civil Service Commission for administrative charges, which may include dismissal, disqualification, or other penalties under existing laws.

If the violation involves fraud, malversation, or misappropriation of funds, criminal liability may also arise under the Revised Penal Code or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act (RA 3019).”

Section 9. Section 25 of RA 11861 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 25. Section 14 of the same Act is hereby amended and renumbered as Section 28, to read as follows:

Section 28. Appropriations. - ~~The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of the concerned~~

~~government agencies in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).~~ To guarantee the effective nationwide implementation of this Act, the national government shall appropriate the necessary funds annually for the following purposes:

- (a) Monthly cash subsidy for indigent solo parents;
- (b) Education, health, livelihood, and emergency assistance for solo parent households;
- (c) Development, maintenance, and upgrading of digital systems and centralized databases for Solo Parent Identification Card processing, verification, and benefit administration;
- (d) Administration and Operations of NOSPA;
- (e) Capacity building, staffing support, and operational augmentation for Local Government Unit Solo Parent Affairs Offices; and
- (f) Monitoring, evaluation, and enforcement of compliance by LGUs, national government agencies, and private establishments.

The amount herein appropriated shall be automatically included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA) each year”

Section 10. Section 27 of RA 11861 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 27. Section 17 of the same Act is hereby amended and renumbered as Section 31, to read as follows:

Section 31. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.”

Section 11. Repealing Clause - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, regulations, or parts inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 12. Separability Clause - If any provision is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act shall remain effective and enforceable.

Approved,