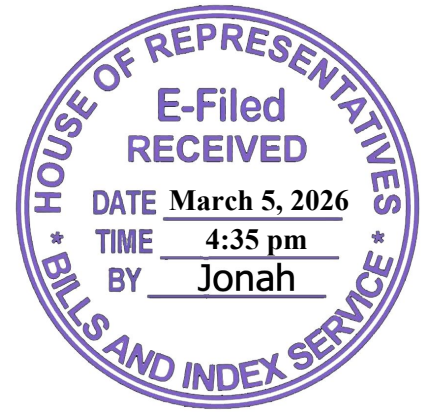


**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City**

**Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session**

House Bill No. 8337



**Introduced by Honorable Representatives
DADAH KIRAM ISMULA (Akbayan Partylist)
JOSE MANUEL TADEO "CHEL" I. DIOKNO (Akbayan Partylist)
PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA (Akbayan Partylist)
KAKA BAG-AO (Dinagat Islands)**

**AN ACT GRANTING A MATERNITY BENEFIT TO WOMEN WORKERS IN
INFORMAL ECONOMY, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
11210, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 11210 or the 105-day Expanded Maternity Leave Law is a vital piece of legislation that ensures that women are provided with a mechanism allowing them ample time to recover their health and overall well-being as well as to assume maternal roles before resuming paid work. The effects of this law clearly strengthened the rights of women to health and decent work. However, women workers in informal economy, who are non-members of the Social Security System (SSS), are unable to fully enjoy the benefits of the Expanded Maternity Leave Law.

A study conducted by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies shows that women contribute 76% of unpaid work compared to just 24% by men. The study further explains that if this unpaid labor were compensated, it would amount to trillions of pesos—equivalent to 20% of the country's GDP.¹ Despite these substantial contributions, women continue to face significant challenges in accessing social protection and overcoming economic constraints.

In this regard, such gaps in social protection such as the benefits received by women workers in the informal economy who are non-members of the SSS should be addressed. The proposed measure seeks to fill this gap by mandating the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to administer a one-time direct maternity cash benefit for each delivery. The benefit shall be equivalent to the prevailing daily

¹ PLCPD. (2025, March 7). Lifting the women who lift us: Accelerating action for Filipino women in all sectors. Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development. <https://www.plcpd.org.ph/lifting-the-women-who-lift-us-accelerating-action-for-filipino-women-in-all-sectors/>

minimum wage rate in the worker's region of residence, multiplied by forty-four (44) days, thereby providing much-needed financial support during the maternity period.

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



DADAH KIRAM ISMULA
Akbayan Representative



JOSE MANUEL TADEO
"CHEL" I. DIOKNO
Akbayan Representative



PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA
Akbayan Representative



KAKA BAG-AO
Dinagat Islands Representative

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11210, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** - This Act shall be known as the "Maternity Benefit for
2 Women in the Informal Economy Act."

3
4 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the declared policy of the State to protect the
5 rights and welfare of women workers in the informal economy, to ensure optimal
6 maternal health consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals, and to encourage
7 and support the practice of breastfeeding in furtherance of its obligation to ensure the
8 survival and development of Filipino children.

9
10 **SEC. 3. *Maternity benefit for women workers in the informal economy.*** –
11 Section 11 of Republic Act No. 11210 is hereby deleted and replaced with a new
12 Section 11, to read as follows:

13
14 **Section 11. MATERNITY BENEFITS FOR FEMALE WORKERS WHO ARE**
15 **NON-MEMBERS OF THE SSS. – FEMALE WORKERS WHO ARE NEITHER**
16 **VOLUNTARY NOR REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE SSS SHALL RECEIVE,**
17 **THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT**
18 **(DSWD), A ONE-TIME DIRECT MATERNITY CASH BENEFIT PER DELIVERY**
19 **EQUIVALENT TO THE PREVAILING DAILY MINIMUM WAGE RATE IN HER**
20 **REGION OF RESIDENCE MULTIPLIED BY FORTY-FOUR (44) DAYS.**

21

1 **SEC. 4. *Funding source.*** – The amounts necessary to fund this maternity benefit
2 shall be taken from revenues from excise taxes on sweetened beverages, alcohol,
3 tobacco products, heated tobacco products, and vapor products, and may be
4 augmented under the General Appropriations Act.

5
6 **SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.*** - If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is
7 held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected will
8 continue in full force and effect.

9
10 **SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules
11 and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions
12 of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

13
14 **SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** - This Act takes effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at
15 least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,