



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

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2772

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Introduced by Honorable Roger G. Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Pantawid Pampamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) has been implemented for years now. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has already seen positive results of the said program. It is therefore necessary to ensure the continuity of this program and the only way to provide a mantle for its continuity is to enact the necessary legislation for it.

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

ROGER G. MERCADO

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SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. 2772

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AN ACT
INSTITUTING A NATIONWIDE CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER PROGRAM OUTLINING ITS
POLICIES, FRAMEWORK, STRUCTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Short Title. This act shall be known as the "*Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Act of 2015.*"

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared policy of the State to ensure that families who are in most need shall be cared for not only through government programs but also through the government financial assistance. Likewise, the State shall promote an atmosphere where the indigent families' educational and health needs are monitored and cared for. Furthermore, State shall institute policies that provide adequate social services, a rising standard of living, and improved quality of life for all pursuant to Article II, Section 9 of the Constitution.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. As used in this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

a. *Child* refers to a minor aged 0-18 who belongs to the qualified family beneficiary;

b. *Department* refers to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the lead Agency that will implement the program defined in this Act;

c. *Family -Beneficiary* refers to a family identified by the Department as entitled to benefit from the Conditional Cash Transfer Program; and

d. *Poor* refers to families whose income falls under the poverty threshold defined by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and/or families that cannot afford to provide the basic human needs of food, health, education, shelter and other necessary requisites for a decent life.

Section 4. Conditional Cash transfer Program. There is hereby established a Conditional Cash Transfer Program, hereinafter referred to as Program, under the Department. The said program shall have the following objectives.

a. Social Assistance- The Program shall be geared toward alleviating poverty by giving financial support to extremely poor families to respond to their essential needs.

b. Social Development- The Program shall also aim toward the development and health of poor children through the condition set in Section 6 of this Act.

Section 5. Coverage. The Department, in coordination with the Advisory Council, shall create and update a list of potential family-beneficiaries through the efforts of its National Household Targeting Office (NHTO). Eligible family-beneficiaries shall be selected using the following criteria:

a. Families whose economic condition is equal to or below the provincial poverty threshold;

b. Families that have children 0-18 years old and/or have a pregnant woman at the time of assessment;

c. Families from the poorest municipalities in the country as identified by the latest Small Area

Estimates (SAE) of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA); *Provided, that*

municipalities that do not fall under the said category may still be considered in the

1 deliberations of the Department and the Advisory Council after giving due priority to
2 the poorest municipalities.

3
4 The Department, in consultation with the Advisory Council as defined in Section 7 of this Act,
5 may add to the aforementioned criteria through the Implementing Rules and Regulations of
6 this Act.

7
8 If necessary, a different set of criteria and conditions shall be performed by the Department in
9 consultation with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) for family-
10 beneficiaries belonging to indigenous peoples and communities.

11 The National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS_PR) will be subject to
12 review by the Department every two (2) years after approval of this Act.

13
14 **Section 6. *Lead Agency.*** The Department shall serve as the lead agency in the planning,
15 coordinating, and implanting and monitoring the program. It shall have the following
16 functions:

- 17
18 a. Device and implement an appropriate, effective, and cost-efficient method for
19 identifying and selecting qualified family beneficiaries;
20 b. Identify and select the target family-beneficiaries on the basis of a uniform objective
21 and transparent selection process;
22 c. Conduct seminar-workshops and training programs in order to ensure qualified
23 family- beneficiaries.
24 d. Coordinate with different national local agencies, including civil society, non
25 government, and private sector organizations, to ensure communication and
26 partnership, which shall assist in the success of the implementation of the Program.
27 e. Set up monitoring and evaluation systems and methodologies on compliance of
28 conditions, implementation of operations and output and impact assessments.
29 f. Recommend to the Presidents measures and policies for the responsive

1 implementation of the commitments under this Act;

2 g. Coordinate with different national and local agencies to maintain and update
3 objective poverty maps which will be checked and cross-checked periodically for
4 duplications and inaccurate or erroneous information;

5 h. Formulate implementing rules and guidelines for the enforcement of this Act.

6 i. Submit an annual report to Congress including but not limited to , all aspects of its
7 operations, financial status and other relevant data.

8 j. I awareness of the mplement measures for information and transparency in order to
9 raise the family-beneficiaries and the general public about the funds used and
10 activities initiated by the Program ; and

11 k. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to this Act.

12
13 **Section 7. Advisory Council.** An Advisory Council shall be created at the municipal, regional
14 and national levels to be headed by the Anti Poverty Commission (NAPC) and maybe
15 composed of representatives from the Department of Social Welfare and Development
16 (DSWD), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Health (DOH), Philippine Health
17 Insurance Corporation (Philhealth), Department of the Local Interior and Local Government
18 (DILG), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) , Technical Education and Development
19 Authority (TESDA), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), National Commission on
20 Indigenous Peoples (NCIP),National youth Commission (NYC), and accredited on-government
21 organizations, as members. The advisory Council is principally tasked to coordinate with the
22 Department in the monitoring and assessment of the program.

23
24 **Section 8. Cash Subsidy.** Upon identification by the NHTS-PR of families eligible for the
25 Program, the Department shall give the following Cash Subsidies:

26
27 a. Health and Nutrition Subsidy- A minimum of Five Hundred Pesos (PhP500.00) for
28 each family per month or a total of not less than Six Thousand Pesos (PhP6,000.00)
29 per year.

- 1 b. Educational Subsidy- A minimum of Three Hundred Pesos (PhP300.00) for every
2 child every month for ten (10) months or a total of not less than Three Thousand
3 pesos (PhP300.00) for every child per year, Provided, that each family may only
4 register a maximum of three (3) children.

5
6 **Section 9. Compliance of Families.** In order to be eligible for Cash Subsidy, families should
7 meet the following conditions:

- 8
9 a. Pregnant women must avail pre- and post-natal care, and be Attended during
10 childbirth by trained professional.
11 b. Parents or guardians must attend the family development sessions, which include
12 topics on responsible parenting, health and nutrition;
13 c. Children aged 0-5 years must receive regular preventive health check-ups and
14 vaccines;
15 d. Children aged 6-14 years must receive deworming pills twice a year; and
16 e. Children-beneficiaries aged 3-18 years must enroll in school, and maintain an
17 attendance at least 85% of class days every month.
18 f. Children who are enrolled in high school must attend youth development sessions
19 conducted by the Department in partnership with the National Youth Commission
20 (NYC).

21
22 The Department may add to these conditions through a Memorandum Order. It shall also
23 create a system to ensure that all families meet these conditions before receiving Cash
24 Subsidy as contained in Section 8 of this Act.

25
26 **Section 10. Failure to comply with the Program Conditions.** A family- beneficiary that fails to
27 comply with the conditions of the Program shall be given a warning through a written
28 notification directed to the head of the family or any responsible person. The Department
29 must also task any of its personnel connected with the Program to communicate with the

1 family-beneficiary concerned in order to determine the reasons for their non-compliance and
2 if necessary, to explain once again the rationale of the Program.

3
4 After receiving the written notice and after Department personnel have communicated with
5 the family-beneficiary, if non-compliance persists, the benefits under this act may be
6 suspended.

7
8 Cancellation of benefits can also be carried out if the notified family- beneficiary continues to
9 fail comply for a duration of one (1) year.

10
11 **Section 11. Regular Evaluation of Cash Subsidy Disbursement.** The amounts enumerated in
12 Section 5 of this Act shall be made available to the qualified family-beneficiaries within the
13 first two (2) years of implementation and may undergo reasonable adjustments as ordered by
14 the President upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council in accordance to inflation
15 rates and other economic indicators.

16
17 **Section 12. Report of the Program.** The Department shall annually, publish a full report of the
18 Program for the previous fiscal year. The said report shall include financial disclosures,
19 number of families included in the Program, and a recommendations to the President of the
20 Philippines and Congress on how to further enhance the Program. The President and both
21 House of representatives shall be furnished copies of thus report annually before budget
22 deliberations.

23
24 **Section 13. Program Transparency.** The amounts of Cash Subsidy disbursed to family-
25 beneficiaries shall be organized into a report that will be regularly posted and updated
26 whenever possible in the Department website and other related online sources, such as the
27 Open Data Philippines website. Information should also be broken down by geographic areas
28 and other social, economic and cultural circumstances. Further, a summary of the report

1 written in plain English, Filipino, and other major national languages should be included in the
2 online publication of information.

3
4 **Section 14. Appropriations.** The amount necessary for the Program shall be included in the
5 annual budget allocation of the Department provided in the General Appropriation Act.

6
7 **Section 15. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** The Department shall create and publish
8 Implementing Rules and Regulations with in the ninety (90) days of approval of this Act.

9
10 **Section 16. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or
11 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

12
13 **Section 17. Repealing Clause.** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations
14 and/or administrative regulations, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
15 hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed accordingly.

16
17 **Section 18. Effectivity Clause.** This act shall take effect fifteen days after its publication in the
18 Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.