



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

204

House Bill No. _____

Introduced by Representative Jose Enrique S. Garcia III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Parent Effectiveness Service (PES) was first introduced by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in 1981 with the release of the PES Handbook developed by then Bureau of Family and Child Welfare. The PES later became the main component of the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) which was the focus of UNICEF under the Country Program for Children (CPC) II. Printing of the PES Manual in book form was first made in 1987.¹

With the passage of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", the PES was among the services of the DSWD devolved to the local government units. The devolution, notwithstanding, the DSWD enriched the manual in 2001 to provide additional reference guide for local government unit workers and enhance the methodology, strategies and approaches, and content in facilitating the conduct of PES in the community.²

At present, the implementation and impact of the PES is largely unfelt. While it remains as a component of the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Act, it is not given the appropriate attention that it justly deserves. This is notwithstanding the provision of the ECCD Act directing that the PES, among others, shall continue to be supported by LGUs in the form of construction of basic infrastructure, provision of facilities, materials and equipment, and compensation for the service providers.³

Likewise, although the DSWD continues to incorporate the PES as one of the materials of Family Development Sessions in connection with the

¹ Lourdes G. Balanon: Preface, Manual on Effective Parenting (Enriched Parent Effectiveness Service)

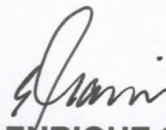
² *Ibid.*

³ Paragraph 3, Section 9(a), R.A. 8980, otherwise known as the "ECCD Act."

implementation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), its focus and coverage is not as extensive and continuous as that originally envisioned.

The quality and extent of care, attention, and provision for their needs remain to be cornerstone of our children's development. Effectively providing for all these needs depends on the readiness and commitment of parents and parent substitutes to perform their roles and responsibilities. While child rearing and development are inherent responsibilities of parenthood, it is equally the responsibility of the State to defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development.

Support for this bill is therefore earnestly requested from my colleagues.



REP. JOSE ENRIQUE S. GARCIA III
2nd District, Bataan



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**AN ACT MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE PARENT EFFECTIVENESS SERVICE BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT
UNITS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*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 Parent
2 Effectiveness Service Act.”

3 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy** – It is the declared policy of the State
4 to recognize the sanctity of family life, protect and strengthen the family as the
5 basic social institution and foundation of the nation, strengthen its solidarity, and
6 actively promote its total development. It is further the policy of the State to
7 defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition,
8 and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and
9 other conditions prejudicial to their development.

10 Towards this end, the State shall implement a parent effectiveness
11 service designed to enhance and strengthen the role of parents as the primary
12 educators and caregivers of their children, and create an atmosphere conducive
13 to the children’s physical, moral, and intellectual development.

14 **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms** – As used in this Act, the following
15 terms shall mean:

16 (a) Parent Effectiveness Service (PES) – is the provision and
17 expansion of knowledge and skills of parents and parent substitutes
18 on parenting to be able to respond to parental duties and
19 responsibilities on the areas of early childhood development,
20 behavior management of younger and older children, husband-wife
21 relationships, prevention of child abuse, health care, and other
22 challenges of parenting. It assists parents and parent substitutes to

1 develop and strengthen their knowledge and skills so they can
2 assume the major educational role in their child's growth and
3 development;

4
5 (b) Parent substitute – refers to the guardian other than the biological
6 parents who has custody over a child and is primarily responsible
7 for his care, physical, moral and intellectual development. It shall
8 also include surrogate parents and caretakers.

9
10 (c) Module – refers to a component subject consisting of a carefully
11 thought out and written material with varied number of sessions,
12 that together with the other modules shall count towards the
13 completion of the PES.

14 **SECTION 4. Establishment of the PES** – There is hereby established in
15 every city and municipality a PES program to assist parents and parent
16 substitutes in strengthening their knowledge and skills in responding to their
17 parental duties and responsibilities. The PES shall consist of the following
18 modules to be developed by the Department of Social Welfare and
19 Development (DSWD) and rolled out in such number of sessions as the DSWD
20 may prescribe:

21 (a) Module 1: Myself as Person and as a Parent. – This module aims to
22 provide participants with a deeper understanding of their roles as
23 parents by going through lessons that enrich their understanding of
24 themselves. Facilitators will help participants identify individual
25 strengths and weaknesses, describe factors that affect the
26 characteristics of their personhood, and clarify family values and
27 goals aligned with strengthening their role as parents among others;

28
29 (b) Module 2: The Filipino Family. – This module aims to give an
30 overview of family dynamics in the context of the Philippines
31 Facilitators will help participants understand the importance and
32 functions of the family, describe the characteristics of the Filipino
33 family, and understand how these characteristics affect the values
34 and behaviors of children among others;

35
36 (c) Module 3: Challenges of Parenting. – This module aims to provide
37 participants with a more in-depth understanding of the obstacles
38 that will be faced by parents and how stronger parenting skills will
39 be able to address these;

40
41 (d) Module 4: Child Development. – This module aims to provide
42 participants with a proper understanding of child growth and
43 development. Different learning avenues for children as well as
44 domains of child development may be discussed;

45
46 (e) Module 5: Keeping Your Child Safe from Abuse. – This module
47 aims to prevent child abuse by educating parents about the rights of
48 their children and familiarizing them with risk factors or warning

1 signs of abuse in children;

2
3 (f) Module 6: Building Children's Positive Behavior. – This module
4 aims to improve parental understanding of child behavior. Basic
5 theories on child behavior will be discussed. Factors that can
6 positively or negatively affect child behavior will also be discussed;

7
8 (g) Module 7: Health and Nutrition. – This module aims to provide
9 adequate information on common health and nutrition needs of
10 children. Common childhood diseases, basic nutrition principles,
11 and growth monitoring are some of the topics that may be
12 discussed;

13
14 (h) Module 8: Home Management. – This module aims to provide
15 participants with practical ideas on how to manage
16 their respective households. Time, financial, and stress
17 management are some of the topics that may be discussed; and

18
19 (i) Module 9: Keeping a Healthy Environment for Your Children. – This
20 module aims to show the importance of physical environment
21 cleanliness in creating a strong household. Waste management and
22 community environmental management efforts may be included as
23 topics in this module.

24 The DSWD may add other modules or expand, modify or merge existing
25 modules as it may deem appropriate taking into consideration the progress and
26 result of the PES implementation.

27 **SECTION 5. Coverage.** – The PES shall primarily cover fathers and
28 mothers, surrogate parents, and caretakers of 0-6 years old children belonging
29 to the low-income group. Those belonging to the higher income group may join
30 voluntarily to enrich their parenting knowledge and skills.

31 **SECTION 6. Implementation of the PES** – The PES shall be
32 implemented by cities and municipalities through their respective social welfare
33 development offices. Parent effectiveness sessions shall be conducted in every
34 barangay at such schedule and interval to be determined by the social welfare
35 officer concerned. For this purpose, the respective social welfare officers shall,
36 on an annual basis, prepare and submit to the local chief executive a complete
37 program and schedule of the parent effectiveness sessions covering all
38 barangays of their respective jurisdictions.

39 The PES conducted pursuant to this Act shall constitute as full and
40 complete compliance with the PES component incorporated in Republic Act
41 8980, otherwise known as the "ECCD Act", and such other government
42 programs mandating the delivery of the PES as requisite for program coverage
43 and entitlement. Accordingly, the DSWD shall harmonize and standardize all
44 PES Module Manuals used by facilitators in conducting parent effectiveness
45 sessions.

1 **SECTION 7. *Capacity Building.*** – The DSWD shall assist the cities and
2 municipalities in developing the required competencies of facilitators who shall
3 be deployed to conduct parent effectiveness sessions in the barangays.

4 **SECTION 8. *Development and Production of PES Manuals*** – The DSWD
5 shall, within three (3) months from the effectivity of this Act, develop and
6 produce the PES Module Manuals to be utilized by the facilitators in conducting
7 the parent effectiveness sessions.

8 **SECTION 9. *Appropriation.*** – The funds necessary to carry out the
9 responsibilities delegated to the DSWD shall be sourced from its current
10 appropriation. Thereafter, the funds necessary for the continuing
11 implementation of its mandate under this Act shall be included in the annual
12 General Appropriations Act.

13 The costs for conducting the parent effectiveness sessions and other
14 expenses relevant thereto shall be charged against the respective
15 appropriations of the cities and municipalities.

16 **SECTION 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60)
17 days from the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD shall promulgate the rules and
18 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

19 **SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any part or
20 provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts
21 or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

22 **SECTION 12. *Repealing Clause*** – All laws, presidential decrees,
23 executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the
24 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

25 **SECTION 13. *Effectivity*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
26 upon the approval and publication thereof.

27 *Approved.*