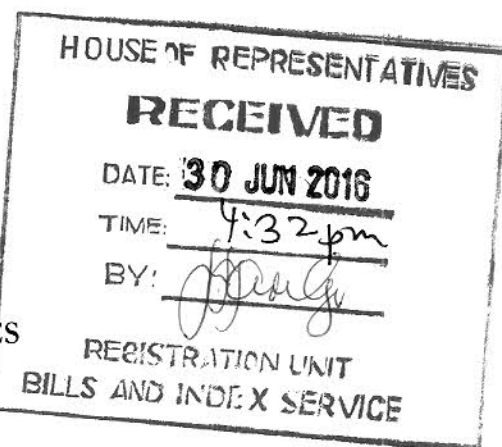


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 501



Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap


As of 06 April 2016, the second round of household assessment for Listahanan or the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) showed that a total 1,511,320 household beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program have improved their status to “non-poor”. This figure represents a large percentage (36%) of the total 4.2 million active Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries.

Of those who have transitioned to non-poor, about 67,968 or 4.5% are still at risk of reverting to poverty when faced with disasters and economics shocks. Studies classify this group as the “vulnerable” or “transient poor”. These are households who registered as non-poor at a particular year but are dragged back to poverty a few years after.

Using the mentioned studies, the DSWD pegged 1.1 or 10% above the poverty line as the threshold that will enable them to identify the vulnerable families in the assessment. By applying the said threshold to the result of the Proxy Means Test (PMT), the Listahanan will be able to generate a list of vulnerable families. Then, the Department can craft programs that specifically address the needs of this sector. Of the 15.1 million households or 16.7 million families covered in the 2nd assessment, the Listahanan identified 880,978 households or 983,816 families as vulnerable.

The Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program is more than just a cash grant program. It breaks the intergenerational poverty cycle through investments in human capital. In a 2014 study, the World Bank found improvements in health and education indicators among beneficiaries. The country's 4Ps is now the world's fourth largest conditional cash transfer program based on number of beneficiaries behind India, Brazil, and Mexico.

Given the success of this Program to reach out the poor, there is a need to ensure sustainability through an enacted policy. Hence, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


VICTOR A. YAP
Representative, 2nd District of Tarlac

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

501

House Bill No. ___

Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps)
TO REDUCE POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino
2 Program (4Ps) Act”.

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State recognizes the need to strengthen the solidarity
4 of the family and actively promote its total development.

5 The State further recognizes its obligation to promote a just and dynamic social order that
6 will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through
7 policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living,
8 and an improved quality of life for all.

9 The State furthermore recognizes the need to protect the poor; thus, the State hereby
10 declares it a policy to:

11 (a) Provide assistance to the poor to alleviate their immediate needs;

12 (b) Break the intergenerational cycle of poverty through investment in human capital and
13 improved delivery of basic services to the poor, particularly education, health and nutrition;

14 (c) Promote gender equality and empowerment of women;

15 (d) Achieve universal primary education;

16 (e) Reduce child mortality; and

17 (f) Improve maternal health.

18

1 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:

2 (a) Case management refers to a process used by the Department of Social Welfare and
3 Development (DSWD) to enable the household-beneficiaries to improve their functioning
4 by dealing with their difficulties specifically in complying with the conditionalities of the
5 Program;

6 (b) Compliance verification refers to the checking and monitoring done to ensure that the
7 qualified household-beneficiaries comply with conditions for entitlement set forth by the
8 Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps);

9 (c) Conditional cash grant refers to the amount being received by the qualified household-
10 beneficiaries who comply with the conditions for entitlement;

11 (d) Extremely poor refers to households, duly identified by the standardized targeting
12 system, whose income falls short of enabling them to provide even just their nutritional
13 requirements;

14 (e) Grantee refers to the most responsible adult member of the qualified household-
15 beneficiary authorized to receive the conditional cash transfer;

16 (f) Grievance Redress System refers to the mechanism of the DSWD which addresses and
17 resolves issues and concerns related to the implementation of the Program;

18 (g) Health facility refers to a barangay health station, rural health unit or primary hospital;

19 (h) Health service providers refer to barangay health workers, barangay nutrition scholars
20 and midwives;

21 (i) Poor refers to households whose income falls below the poverty threshold as defined by
22 the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and cannot afford in a
23 sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing
24 and other essential amenities of life;

25 (j) Preventive health check-up refers to health services comprising of complete
26 immunization, deworming, weight monitoring and management of childhood diseases;

27 (k) Program refers to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) which is the national
28 poverty reduction strategy that provides conditional cash transfer to poor households to
29 improve their health, nutrition and education;

30 (l) Qualified household-beneficiaries refer to households identified by the DSWD for
31 entitlement of the monthly conditional cash grant;

32 (m) Responsible person refers to the parent or guardian in the qualified household-
33 beneficiary; and

1 (n) Standardized Targeting System refers to a system for identifying who and where the poor
2 households are through the generation of socioeconomic database of poor households that
3 is adopted by national government agencies and implemented by the DSWD.

4 **SEC. 4. Selection of Qualified Household-Beneficiaries.** – On a nationwide basis, the
5 DSWD shall select qualified household-beneficiaries using a standardized targeting system. The
6 DSWD shall conduct a revalidation of targeting of beneficiaries every three (3) years.

7 **SEC. 5. Local Verification Committee.** – A Local Verification Committee shall be created
8 in every municipality or city composed of two (2) local government unit representatives, an
9 accredited health-service provider from the barangay, a representative of an accredited civil society
10 organization, and the school head as designated by the Department of Education.

11 The Committee shall be tasked to ensure that the initial list of beneficiaries satisfies the
12 eligibility requirements set forth under this Act.

13 **SEC. 6. Conditional Cash Transfer.** – Subject to certain conditions, each qualified
14 household-beneficiary shall receive a conditional cash transfer equivalent to five hundred pesos
15 (P500.00) per month for health and nutrition expenses or the equivalent of six thousand pesos
16 (P6,000.00) per qualified household-beneficiary per year.

17 A maximum of three (3) children per qualified household-beneficiary shall be given
18 conditional cash grants for educational expenses:

19 (a) Three hundred pesos (P300.00) per month per child enrolled in elementary or the
20 equivalent of three thousand pesos (P3,000.00) per a ten (10)-month school year;

21 (b) Five hundred pesos (P500.00) per month per child enrolled in junior high school or the
22 equivalent of five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) per a ten (10)-month school year; and

23 (c) Seven hundred pesos (P700.00) per month per child enrolled in senior high school or the
24 equivalent of seven thousand pesos (P7,000.00) per a ten (10)-month school year.

25 A supplementary education grant of three hundred pesos (P300.00) per month shall be given
26 to the child in elementary or high school who has maintained passing grades in all subjects after the
27 second year of availment of the Program.

28 **SEC. 7. Conditions for Entitlement.** – All qualified household-beneficiaries shall comply
29 with the following conditions as a requirement for continued program eligibility:

30 (a) Children zero (0) to five (5) years old must receive regular preventive health check-ups
31 and vaccinations;

32 (b) Children six (6) to thirteen (13) years old must avail of deworming pills at least twice a
33 year;

