



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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 103**

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Introduced by 4Ps Partylist Representative  
**JC M. ABALOS**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), institutionalized by Republic Act No. 11310, serves as the national poverty reduction strategy and human investment program of the country. It provides conditional cash transfers to poor households for a maximum period of seven (7) years that is designed at improving the health, nutrition, and education of the beneficiaries. Studies by the World Bank and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) underscore its pivotal role in enhancing the socioeconomic well-being of beneficiary households and its significant contributions to nationwide poverty alleviation. Furthermore, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) report in 2020 noted positive outcomes, including improved child nutrition and education, enhanced access to maternal and child health services, and sustained high levels of school enrolment and attendance among early participants.

However, despite these positive results, the battle to eradicate poverty remains challenging. The recent preliminary results on poverty from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reveal that 16.4% of Filipino families, totaling 4.51 million, continue to live in poverty. Of these, the Pantawid Program aims to support approximately 4.4 million households. Unfortunately, the critical task of managing and monitoring the 4Ps households falls upon the caseholders or the City/Municipal Links (C/MLs), who are handling caseloads averaging 500 to 800 households per Link; a figure which is significantly well above the ideal ratio of 1:300.

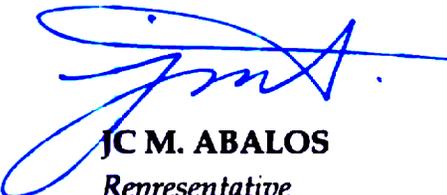
For the success of the country's poverty program initiative to continue, it is then imperative to fortify its effective implementation. One current method indicated in the Implementing Rules and Regulation of the Pantawid Program is engaging Parent Groups and Parent Leaders to work with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the C/MLs. Parent Leaders serve as crucial intermediaries between program administrators and beneficiaries within their respective communities. Their grassroots connections and intimate understanding of local dynamics enable them to foster trust, facilitate communication, and amplify community voices.

Further, during the 19th Congress, this representation led a series of three (3) public hearings across key regions: Luzon at the House of Representatives; Visayas in Eastern Samar, and Mindanao in Sultan Kudarat. The hearings served to gather comprehensive information and critical insights from the Parent Leaders and DSWD C/MLs nationwide. The primary objective was to ensure that this proposed measure accurately addresses the realities, challenges, and needs faced by Parent Leaders in their day-to-day functions within the Pantawid Program. This proposed legislative measure is the outcome of the said public hearings.

Thus, this bill seeks to optimize the invaluable involvement of Parent Leaders by establishing their roles and responsibilities within the Pantawid Program. Recognizing their voluntary service as a crucial up-close and personal link between household beneficiaries and C/MLs, the bill further provides the Parent Leaders with necessary allowances to support the performance of their functions. Moreover, this measure underscores the critical importance of continuous capacity building for Parent Leaders, mandating structured training, knowledge and skill development, and other educational opportunities essential for the effective discharge of their duties.

Currently, the Pantawid Program benefits from the dedication of approximately 152,000 Parent Leaders, each managing an average of forty (40) beneficiary households within their respective communities.

In light of the above, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



**JC M. ABALOS**  
*Representative*  
*4Ps Partylist*



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**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PANTAWID FAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) THROUGH PARENT LEADERS ENGAGEMENT, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “4Ps Parent Leaders Act”.

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure 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 for all.

Towards this end, the State shall implement measures to break intergenerational poverty through investments in human capital and the enhancement of basic service delivery to impoverished sectors, particularly bolstering education, healthcare, nutrition, and comprehensive childhood care and development programs.

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

- (a) *Parent Group* refers to a cluster of 20 to 40 responsible persons who are active 4Ps household beneficiaries within an area or community, recognized and registered by the Department of Social Welfare and Development.
- (b) *Parent Leader (PL)* refers to an elected member of a Parent Group, or selected by the City/Municipal (C/M) Link based on a set of criteria in cases where an election among the Parent Group members is impracticable, who shall serve as a point person or community leader of a Parent Group for a period of three (3) years.
- (c) *Assistant Parent Leader (APL)* refers to an elected member of a Parent Group, or selected by the City/Municipal (C/M) Link based on a set of criteria in cases where an election among the Parent Group members is impracticable, who shall assist the Parent Leader of a Parent Group for a period of three (3) years.
- (d) *Caseload* refers to the number of 4Ps household beneficiaries with whom City/Municipal Links are concerned at a given period.

**SEC. 4. *Criteria in selecting Parent Leader and Assistant Parent Leader.*** – The following criteria will be used in the selection of PLs and APLs either through election among Parent Group members or by appointment by C/M Links:

- (a) Must be an active 4Ps member;
- (b) Must be residents of the Pantawid area where their children are being monitored;
- (c) Must be able to read, write, and understand the 4Ps program processes;
- (d) Shall hold a maximum of three (3) officers positions concurrently in different organizations, including the position of a parent leader; and
- (e) Must exhibit good moral character.

**SEC. 5. *Coverage.*** – This Act shall cover Parent Leaders and Assistant Parent Leaders, elected or selected to represent their Parent Group to directly and primarily engage in providing support services to beneficiaries of Republic Act No. 11310, otherwise known as the “Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act”.

The DSWD is hereby mandated as the lead agency in the implementation of this Act. The DSWD shall formulate a guideline of requirements and criteria in the

election and selection of one (1) PL and one (1) APL from each duly recognized Parent Group to perform functions that shall strengthen the effective implementation of the 4Ps Act.

**SEC. 6. Roles of Parent Leaders and Assistant Parent Leaders.** – A PL and an APL shall assist a C/M Link in the management of their assigned caseload of 4Ps household-beneficiaries, by performing the following roles:

- (a) Assisting in the Social Case Management Process;
- (b) Assisting in the Conduct of Family Development Sessions;
- (c) Updating 4Ps member information;
- (d) Communicating and advocating with members regarding program compliance; and
- (e) Facilitate Community Development Activities.

In the event that the PL is unable to perform duties, the APL shall assume the tasks of the PL.

**SEC. 7. Allowances.** – Parent Leaders shall receive a monthly allowance of One thousand three hundred pesos (Php1,300.00) to use for incidental expenses related to the performance of their tasks. The prescribed amount under this Act shall be adjusted upon the review and recommendation of the National Advisory Council (NAC) of the 4Ps Act.

**8. Periodic Assessment.** – Every three (3) years after the effectivity of this Act, the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) shall conduct an impact assessment to ensure the sufficiency of the allowance to make a positive impact on Parent Leaders, and recommend to the NAC whether the allowance shall be adjusted to its present value using the consumer price index.

**SEC. 9. Enhancement Program.** – The DSWD, in coordination with the Philippine Association of Social Workers, Inc. (PASWI) and the National Association for Social Work Education, Inc. (NASWEI), shall provide for a system of continuing education, skills training, and knowledge enhancement for PLs and APLs.

**SEC. 10. Awards and Recognition.** – The DSWD shall set up an Awards and Recognition System that, on an annual basis, will give tangible forms of appreciation for the excellent performance of functions, and individual and outstanding contributions to the strengthening of the implementation of the 4Ps program of selected PLs and APLs.

**SEC. 11. *Grievance Machinery.*** – The DSWD shall set up a Grievance Machinery to effectively manage complaints from and about parent leaders in the performance of their tasks.

**SEC.12. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

**SEC.13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD, in coordination with NAC, PASWI and NASWEI, and other civil society organizations representing 4Ps beneficiaries, shall formulate the rules and regulations to comprehensively implement the provisions of this Act.

**SEC.14. *Separability Clause.*** – If for any reason, any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SEC.15. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 16. *Effectivity.*** – The Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

*Approved,*