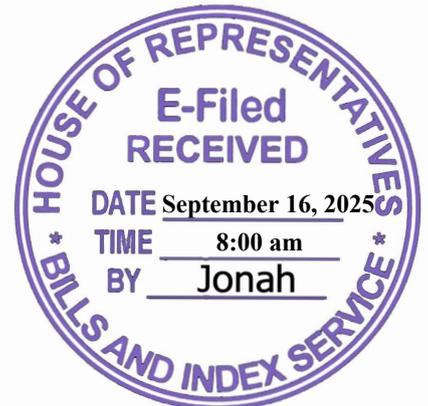




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4592



Introduced by 4Ps Partylist Representatives:
JC M. ABALOS and MARCELINO C. LIBANAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The effective implementation of government programs hinges on the efficiency of the agencies mandated to carry them out. In the case of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), Republic Act No. 11310, also known as the 4Ps Act, designates the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as the lead implementing agency.

Key personnel are engaged to provide crucial support services to 4Ps beneficiaries nationwide. These individuals - including Regional Program Coordinators (RPCs), Provincial Links, Social Welfare Officer III (SWO III), City or Municipal Links (C/MLs), and Social Welfare Assistants (SWAs) - are trained in case management, counseling, and project management. They serve as case managers and program staff who directly work with beneficiaries, acting as the conduit between stakeholders like the DSWD, local government units (LGUs), and the beneficiaries themselves.

It is, however, truly unfortunate that despite their critical role in ensuring the program's success, these personnel are currently hired on a contractual basis or through Contracts of Service (COS), which deprives them of job security and government benefits.

Considering their vital function, these implementers should be regarded as regular employees of the government. Regularizing these positions by creating plantilla positions would not only provide them with security of tenure and entitlement to benefits, but also allow for a streamlined delivery of government services and ensure the attainment of the 4Ps Act's objectives.

It is, indeed, an unfortunate irony that the very individuals working to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty may themselves face unemployment and financial insecurity due to their precarious employment status. It is therefore only fitting and proper to give these core implementers the opportunity for stable employment and the benefits that come with it.

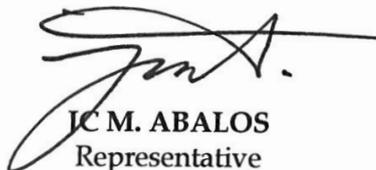
This bill aims to strengthen the implementation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) by creating dedicated field offices, specifically the 4Ps Regional Program Management Office (RPMO), Provincial Operations Office (POO), and City or Municipal Operations Office (C/MOO). To ensure these offices can effectively discharge their functions, the bill also provides for the necessary plantilla positions for their staff. Creating these specific offices in each region, provinces, city, and municipality would entail a significant administrative and financial investments, but would ultimately lead to more direct oversight and efficient service delivery to beneficiaries.

This measure was previously filed during the 19th Congress and referred to the Committee on Poverty Alleviation, where a Technical Working Group was created.

Therefore, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



MARCELINO C. LIBANAN
Representative
4Ps Partylist



JC M. ABALOS
Representative
4Ps Partylist



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AN ACT

CREATING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) REGIONAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE, PROVINCIAL OPERATIONS OFFICE, AND CITY/MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS OFFICE, IN RELATION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11310, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) ACT, TO CREATE PLANTILLA POSITIONS THEREIN WITH ENTITLEMENT TO SECURITY OF TENURE AND OTHER BENEFITS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Creation of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Regional Program Management Office, Provincial Operations Office and City/Municipal Operations Office. – The Department Social Welfare Department (DSWD) is hereby mandated to create the Regional Program Management Office, Provincial Operations Office, and City/Municipal Cluster Operations Office, in relation to the implementation of Republic Act No. 11310, otherwise known as the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act.

SEC 2. The 4Ps Regional Program Management Office (RPMO). – The 4Ps Regional Program Management Office shall adapt and apply policies and guidelines on the implementation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program in the region, which are formulated by the DSWD through the National Program Management

Office. It shall be responsible for the cascading of these policies and guidelines to the provincial, city, and municipal levels. It shall further be responsible for program planning and report preparation for field operations at the regional, provincial, city, and municipal levels.

SEC. 3. Composition of 4Ps Regional Program Management Office. – The 4Ps Regional Program Management Office shall be headed by the Regional Program Management Manager and shall be assisted by the Regional Deputy Program Manager. The Regional Program Coordinator shall also form part of the RPMO who shall oversee the implementation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program at the regional and provincial levels.

SEC. 4. The 4Ps Provincial Operations Office (POO). – The 4Ps Provincial Operations Office shall facilitate the coordination and management of the implementation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program at the local level. It shall compose of cluster offices in the province, with the number of cluster offices depending on the total number of house-hold beneficiaries in the province. It shall directly supervise the local operation in the city or municipality and shall provide support and technical assistance to field implementers in the efficient and timely performance of all functions.

SEC. 5. Composition of the 4Ps Provincial Operations Office. – The 4Ps Provincial Operations Office shall be headed by the Provincial Link (PL) who shall supervise the Provincial Grievance Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, and Administrative Assistant. The PL shall also oversee the operations of the municipal clusters in the province.

SEC. 6. The 4Ps City or Municipal Operations Office (C/MOO). – The City or Municipal Operations Office (C/MOO) shall be in charge of clusters of cities or municipalities within the province. The number of clusters shall be proportionate to the number of 4Ps households in the area. It shall be responsible for the maintenance and monitoring of caseloads, implementation of intervention plans, supply side assessment and case management and referral system.

SEC. 7. Composition of the 4Ps City or Municipal Operations Office. – The 4Ps City or Municipal Operations Office (C/MOO) shall oversee the implementation of 4Ps in the city or municipality. It shall be headed by a Social Welfare Officer (SWO III) who shall supervise the City or Municipal Links (C/MLs), Social Welfare Assistants (SWAs), Administrative Assistants and other local government unit (LGU) links in charge of the program implementation at the local level.

SEC. 8. Creation of Plantilla Positions. – To ensure that the offices created under this act shall effectively discharge their functions, plantilla positions for the staff composing the said offices shall be created by the DSWD in consultation with the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

SEC. 9. Entitlement to Security of Tenure and Other Benefits. – The plantilla positions created under this act shall enjoy security of tenure and cannot be removed unless for a just cause. They shall likewise enjoy the benefits accorded to permanent government employees, subject to the guidelines of the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Civil Service Commission, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall formulate and issue the necessary rules, orders and circulars to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 11. Appropriations. – The amounts necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations for the Department of Social Welfare and Development. Thereafter, the funds shall be provided in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 12. Separability Clause. – Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.

SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. – All other laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules, and regulations, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,