HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7047

- BY REPRESENTATIVES VILLAROSA, SINGSON (E.), ALMARIO, AMATONG, ANGPING, CARI, DUMPIT, EMANO, GONZALES (A.), JAVIER, SEACHON-LANETE, MAGSAYSAY, MATUGAS, REYES (V.), ROMUALDEZ, SUSANO, VIOLAGO, YU, AGYAO, FUA, PANCRUDO, LOPEZ (C.), LAZATIN, GONZALES (N.) AND DE GUZMAN, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2521
- AN ACT TO REDUCE POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT 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 2 Pamilyang Pilipino Program Act of 2010".

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SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - The State recognizes the need to 4 strengthen the solidarity of the family and actively promote its total 5 development.

6 The State further recognizes its obligation to promote a just and 7 dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate 8

social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an
 improved quality of life for all.

3 The State furthermore recognizes the need to protect the weak and 4 underprivileged, especially the extremely poor households; thus, the State 5 hereby declares it a policy to:

6 (a) adopt mechanisms to reduce poverty by providing grants to
7 extremely poor households, particularly children aged zero (0) to fourteen (14)
8 years, to improve their health, nutrition and education;

9 (b) make available basic requirements for a healthy and productive 10 citizenry, such as basic education and nutrition, to the poorest households; and

(c) expand opportunities and empower the marginalized groups toenhance their capacities.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the following terms
and phrases shall mean:

(a) Poor – individuals and families whose income fall below the
poverty threshold as defined by the National Economic and Development
Authority (NEDA) and/or cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their
minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential
amenities of life;

20 (b) Department – the Department of Social Welfare and Development
21 (DSWD);

(c) Qualified household-beneficiaries – the poorest households in the
legislative district identified/targeted by the Department for entitlement of the
monthly conditional cash transfer who are permanent residents of the
municipality/city, classified as extremely poor, who may have members who
are pregnant and/or children zero (0) to fourteen (14) years of age and who are
members of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC);

28 (d) Responsible person - the parent or guardian in the qualified
29 household-beneficiary;

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(e) Child - a minor belonging to the qualified household-beneficiary
 aged zero (0) to fourteen (14) years;

- 3 (f) Preventive health checkup health services comprising of
 4 complete immunization, weight monitoring and management of childhood
 5 diseases;
- 6 (g) Proxy mean testing an instrument using multi-dimensional
 7 indicators to assess socioeconomic status; and
- 8 (h) Conditional cash transfer the monthly cash grant to be released
 9 by the Department to each qualified household-beneficiary in compliance with
 10 conditions.
- SEC. 4. Selection of Qualified Household-Beneficiaries. On a nationwide basis and per legislative district, the Department shall select qualified household-beneficiaries using the list of poorest municipalities called the "Small Area Estimates" (SAE) generated by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) and the proxy mean testing.
- 16 SEC. 5. Conditional Cash Transfer. - Subject to certain conditions, 17 each qualified household-beneficiary shall receive a conditional cash transfer 18 equivalent to Five hundred pesos (P500.00) per month for health and nutrition 19 expenses or the equivalent of Six thousand pesos (P6,000.00) per household-20 beneficiary per year, and an additional Three hundred pesos (P300.00) per 21 month per child for educational expenses or the equivalent of Three thousand 22 pesos (P3,000.00) per a ten (10)-month school year. A maximum of three (3) 23 children per household-beneficiary shall be allowed.
- SEC. 6. Periodic Assessment of Amounts of Cash Transfer. The amounts indicated in the preceding section shall be made available to the household-beneficiaries during the first two (2) years of the implementation of this Act and may thereafter be made subject to reasonable adjustment/s by the President, if necessary, upon recommendation by the Department, after taking into account the rates of inflation and similar economic indicators.

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SEC. 7. Conditions for Entitlement of Cash Transfer. - To avail of the
 conditional cash transfer, the household-beneficiaries must meet specific
 conditions, namely:

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(a) Pregnant women must get a pre- and postnatal care and be attended by a skilled or trained health care professional during childbirth;

6 (b) Responsible persons must attend family development sessions at7 least once a month;

8 (c) Children zero (0) to five (5) years old must receive regular 9 preventive health checkups;

(d) Children three (3) to five (5) years old must attend day care or
preschool classes at least eighty-five percent (85%) of the time;

(e) Children six (6) to fourteen (14) years old must enroll in the
elementary or high school and attend at least eighty-five percent (85%) of the
time;

(f) Children six (6) to fourteen (14) years old must avail of
deworming pills at least every five (5) months; and

(g) Responsible persons shall join and complete at least two (2)
recognized government and/or accredited nongovernment organization (NGO)sponsored entrepreneurship and/or livelihood training programs.

SEC. 8. Loan Assistance Extended to Trainees of the Entrepreneurship
 and/or Livelihood Programs. – Responsible persons who successfully
 completed the entrepreneurship and/or livelihood programs shall be given loan
 assistance without interest to serve as their initial capital through the
 Self-Employment Assistance-Kaunlaran (SEA-K) Program of the Department.

SEC. 9. Consequences for Noncompliance with Conditions. - A
reported household-beneficiary who fails to comply with the conditions set
forth in Section 7 shall at first be notified in writing directed to the responsible
person of the household-beneficiary.

1 If despite due notice, the responsible person continues with his/her 2 noncompliance, the benefits under this Act may be suspended.

Should the household-beneficiary so notified persist in their failure to 3 4 comply as directed, the cash transfer shall be cancelled after one (1) year of 5 noncompliance.

SEC. 10. Mode of Cash Transfer. - The conditional cash transfer shall 6 7 be released by the Department and shall be received by the responsible person 8 of the household-beneficiary or any of his/her duly authorized representative 9 on a monthly basis through the Land Bank cash card.

10 If transfer through the cash card is not feasible, an alternative mode of transfer shall be effected such as, but not limited to, over-the-counter 11 12 transactions through the nearest Land Bank branch of off-site payments by the 13 Department, or through any bank authorized by the government.

14 SEC. 11. Five (5)-year Maximum Limit for Receipt of Conditional 15 Cash Transfer. - Each household-beneficiary shall receive the conditional cash 16 transfer for a maximum period of five (5) years.

17 SEC. 12. Lead Agency. - The Department shall serve as the central planning, coordinating, implementing and monitoring body. 18

19 In the implementation of this Act, the Department shall have the 20 following functions:

21 (a) Select and use an appropriate, effective and cost efficient method devised for the purpose of identifying and selecting qualified household-22 23 beneficiaries;

24 (b) Identify and select the target household-beneficiaries on the basis of 25 a uniform, objective and transparent selection process;

26 (c) Conduct seminar-workshops and training programs in order to 27 ensure household-beneficiary awareness of the conditions and other actions 28 pertinent to this Act;

1 (d) Coordinate with different national and local agencies, including 2 organizations from the private sector, to ensure full implementation of statutory 3 commitments herein;

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4 (e) Set up monitoring and evaluation systems and methodologies on 5 compliance of conditions, implementation of operations, and output and impact 6 assessments. It shall also coordinate with the Advisory and Monitoring 7 Committees at the national, regional and municipal levels to verify compliance 8 once a month using the monitoring and evaluation systems designed for the 9 purpose;

(f) Recommend to the President measures and policies for the
responsive implementation of the commitments under this Act;

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

15 (h) Formulate implementing rules and guidelines for the enforcement16 of this Act;

17 (i) Submit an annual report to Congress including, but not limited to,18 all aspects of its operations, financial status and other relevant data; and

(j) Perform such other functions as may be necessary and/or incidentalto the proper enforcement of the statutory commitments under this Act.

21 SEC. 13. Advisory Council. - An Advisory Council shall be created at 22 the municipal, regional and national levels to be headed by the Department and 23 composed of representatives from the Department of Education (DepED), the Department of Health (DOH), the PHIC, the Department of the Interior and 24 25 Local Government (DILG), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the 26 27 Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the National Anti-Poverty 28 Commission (NAPC), the local government unit (LGU) concerned and accredited NGOs. The Advisory Council is principally tasked to monitor and
 assess actions and activities relative to the implementation of the program.

3 SEC. 14. Independent Monitoring Committee. - An independent
4 Monitoring Committee at the municipal, regional and national level, composed
5 of representatives from the private sector, shall be created.

6 The independent Monitoring Committee is principally tasked to
7 complement the monitoring activities of the Department and provide feedback
8 thereto for proper action.

SEC. 15. Grievance Committee. - A Grievance Committee shall 9 likewise be created in the municipal, regional and national levels, headed by 10 11 the Department and composed of representatives from the DepED, the DOH, 12 the PHIC, the DILG, the DTI, the TESDA, the DOLE, the NAPC, the LGU 13 concerned and accredited NGOs. The Grievance Committee is principally tasked to accept complaints and grievances that may arise within their 14 15 respective territorial jurisdictions, conduct investigation in specific cases and 16 dispose case/s filed in connection thereto.

17 SEC. 16. Annual Appropriations. – The Secretary of Social Welfare 18 and Development shall include in the Department's program the 19 implementation of this Act, the initial funding of which shall be charged 20 against the current year's appropriations of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino 21 Program (P4). Thereafter, the amount necessary for its continued 22 implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 17. *Penalty.* – Any person, public or private, whether acting in conspiracy with public officials, who, by act or omission, inserts or allows the insertion of data or false information or who diverts from what ought to be found in the registry, with the view of altering the fact, or aiding in the grant of the money to person/s other than the qualified household-beneficiaries, shall be held liable civilly, criminally and administratively. 1 Without prejudice to penal sanctions, the beneficiary who 2 misappropriates the money transferred under this program shall be obliged to 3 effect reimbursement of the amount received with interest of one percent (1%) 4 every month.

5 SEC. 18. Separability Clause. - If any section or provision of this Act
6 is held unconstitutional or invalid, the validity of other sections herein shall not
7 be affected.

8 SEC. 19. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
9 its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
10 general circulation.

Approved,

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