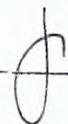


)
)
)

'22 JUL 12 A8:55

S. B. No. 302

RECEIVED BY: _____



INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11310 OR THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG
PILIPINO PROGRAM (4PS) ACT BY INCLUDING VICTIMS OF NATURAL OR MAN-
MADE DISASTERS AS ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Proverbs 31:9

The purpose of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is to give assistance to those who cannot get out of the vicious cycle of poverty. There are also the victims of calamities and disasters, both natural and man-made, who totally lost their properties and who should qualify and be immediately accepted to the program. I therefore propose to include them in the 4Ps with the following qualifications and corresponding benefits:

First, victims of natural or man-made disasters who require assistance shall receive a one-time financial assistance that will cover basic expenses such as food, shelter, and clothing, among other necessities.

Second, if DSWD assesses that the disaster victim suffered losses because of the disaster, he or she shall be immediately enrolled into the program and receive its benefits for one (1) year.

Third, if the victim complies with all the eligibility requirements and becomes poor as a result of the disaster, he or she shall receive full benefits for the entire duration of the program.

4Ps is a step in the right direction for the National Government to help those of our countrymen in need. 4Ps was meant to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty that has long trapped many Filipino families. This measure proposes to strengthen the 4Ps Law to aid our *kababayan* placed in unfortunate situations without their fault, such as in disasters.

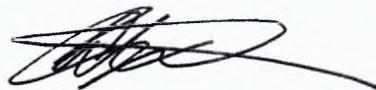
There are many causes for poverty, and those deemed as eligible beneficiaries under Section 6 of R.A. 11310 are the result of such causes. As we learn about those of us who go through economic hardships, it is clear that certain occurrences like fires and natural calamities are one of the many precursors to poverty, homelessness, and displacement for some Filipinos.

Natural and man-made disasters such as fire and floods cause massive loss of properties and disrupt the normality of the daily lives of its victims. Floods continue to be a daily occurrence when typhoons hit the country, when homes, especially in low-lying areas, are either submerged in waters or destroyed by flash floods. Fire disasters are also a major concern in residential structures in the Philippines, affecting many Filipino families in return. With strict lockdown measures imposed due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, fire victims struggle to recover especially when faced with financial constraints.

In February, six hundred families were left homeless because of a fire that broke out in a slum area in Quezon city.² As a fire razed the houses located in Barangay Malinta, Valenzuela, nine-hundred families were left without homes.³ Two-thousand people lost their homes because of a fire in Cebu back in the latter part of 2021. In mere seconds, the fire destroyed their homes and properties, earned and accumulated through years of hard work. When houses burn down, often there's little to none that can be saved and its victims are forced to rebuild their lives all over again. All these while dealing with the emotional distress of losing their homes and their sense of security.

We continue to see this unfortunate, yet repeating occurrence in many Filipino communities. It is therefore urgent that we include victims of natural or man-made disasters as part of the eligible beneficiaries of the 4Ps program.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

² <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2022/02/16/2161062/fire-leaves-600-families-homeless>

³ <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2022/04/11/2173669/valenzuela-fire-leaves-900-families-homeless>

'22 JUL 12 A8:56

S. B. No. 302

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11310 OR THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG
PILIPINO PROGRAM (4PS) ACT BY INCLUDING VICTIMS OF NATURAL OR MAN-
MADE DISASTERS AS ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SEC. 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “4Ps for Disaster Victims
2 Act.”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the declared policy of the State to play an
5 increased role in aiding Filipinos who are victims of calamities. There is a need for a
6 more comprehensive and inclusive Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program to address
7 the needs of Filipinos who have lost their homes due to fire, typhoons or other
8 calamities as they are rendered vulnerable and in need of aid. To this end, it is hereby
9 the policy of the State to include victims of natural or man-made disasters as eligible
10 beneficiaries of the 4Ps.
11

12 **SEC. 3.** A new section shall be inserted as Section 6-A of the Pantawid
13 Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act, to read as follows:
14

15 “SEC. 6-A. VICTIMS WHO WERE RENDERED POOR AS A RESULT OF
16 NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTERS. – HOUSEHOLDS OR FAMILIES WHO
17 HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF A NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTER SUCH AS
18 A FLOOD, STORM, TYPHOONS, FIRE, OR EARTHQUAKE, WHO NEED
19 ASSISTANCE SHALL RECEIVE A ONE-TIME FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM
20 THE DSWD.
21

22 THE DSWD SHALL, WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS AFTER THE
23 OCCURRENCE OF A NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTER, OR WITHIN
24 THIRTY (30) DAYS IF THE DAMAGE OF THE DISASTER IS WIDESPREAD AS
25 DETERMINED BY THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND
26 MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NDRRMC), CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT TO
27 DETERMINE WHETHER DISASTER VICTIMS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FULL
28 BENEFITS UNDER THE 4PS ACT.
29
30
31

1 THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN RENDERED POOR AS A RESULT OF THE
2 DISASTER SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY ENROLLED TO THE 4PS PROGRAM
3 AND BE ELIGIBLE AS FULL BENEFICIARIES THEREOF.
4

5 DISASTER VICTIMS WHO SUFFERED LOSSES, INCLUDING LOSS OF
6 HOUSING, BUT WERE NOT RENDERED POOR BY A DISASTER AND
7 POSSESSES ALL THE QUALIFICATIONS UNDER THIS ACT SHALL BE
8 IMMEDIATELY ENROLLED TO THE 4PS PROGRAM AND BE ELIGIBLE AS
9 FULL BENEFICIARIES THEREOF FOR ONE (1) YEAR.
10

11 FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, A PERSON IS RENDERED POOR OR
12 NEAR-POOR IF HE OR SHE CANNOT AFFORD IN A SUSTAINED MANNER
13 TO PROVIDE HIS OR HER MINIMUM BASIC NEEDS OF FOOD, HEALTH,
14 EDUCATION, HOUSING, AND OTHER ESSENTIAL AMENITIES OF LIFE.”
15

16 **SEC. 4. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions
17 of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations for which corresponding
18 appropriation items are provided in the current and future General Appropriation
19 Laws.
20

21 **SEC. 5. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is declared
22 invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts hereof not affected thereby shall remain
23 valid.
24

25 **SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive
26 orders, administrative orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to
27 the provisions of this Act are deemed amended, modified or repealed accordingly.
28

29 **SEC. 7. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
30 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,