

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3460

Introduced by HON. AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The western portion and central part of the Province of Pangasinan is ideally situated along the tributaries of the Lingayen Gulf and the China Sea. Most people in the area depend on the bounty of the sea for their daily sustenance. But while the fishermen catch fishes the conventional way, there are an increasing number of them who now use more effective but illegal methods.

Cyanide fishing is now prevalently done along the coast of the Lingayen Gulf. By this method, cyanide poison is sprayed into the water to get the fishes out of the reefs for easier hauling. Environmentalists say that cyanide poisons the fishes and eventually destroys the coral reefs. Experts estimate that it will take some fifty (50) years for the affected reefs to recover and become safe again as habitat for the fishes.

This measure proposes to establish a cyanide detection laboratory to detect the presence of poisoned fishes and consequently, deter further extensive damages to large sections of coral reefs. The proposed cyanide laboratory station will also monitor and certify approval of any fish shipment for local consumption and international trade.

Considering the merits of this proposed measure, its early approval is earnestly requested.


AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.
2nd District, Pangasinan

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A CYANIDE DETECTION LABORATORY IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF LINGAYEN, PROVINCE OF
PANGASINAN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a Cyanide Detection Laboratory in the Municipality of Lingayen, Province of Pangasinan.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture in coordination with the Department of Science and Technology, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the immediate and effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 3. The amounts necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary for its operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved,