

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H. No. **4459**

Introduced by **Representative Raul C. Tupas**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF CONCEPCION, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

Agriculture contributes over 10 percent to the country's gross domestic product and fisheries contribute between 15 percent and 18 percent to the agriculture sector. The fisheries sector also provides direct and indirect employment to over one million Filipino people.

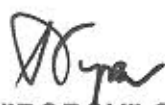
This Bill seeks to establish a multi-species marine hatchery in the municipality of Concepcion to catalyze the development of aquaculture in the area which can generate jobs for its people.

The Municipality of Concepcion is a third class, coastal municipality in the province of Iloilo. Based on the 2010 census, it had a population of 39,617 people. Concepcion is politically subdivided into twenty-five barangays, eleven of which are island barangays, and fourteen of which are on the mainland (Panay Island).

The primary industry of the people of Concepcion is in fishing. The Visayan Sea, where Concepcion is situated, is one of the most prolific in fish production and provides a significant proportion of fish in the region.

The approval of this Bill will contribute to the growth and development of the fisheries sector and allied industries. It will also help increase the income of fisher folks who, together with farmers, remained among the poorest in the country.

In view thereof, approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


RAUL "BOBOY" C. TUPAS

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FUNDS THEREFOR**

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Establishment of Multi-Species Marine Hatchery in the Municipality of Concepcion Act."

SECTION 2. Establishment of Multi-Species Marine Hatchery – There shall be established under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a multi-species marine hatchery in the Municipality of Concepcion, Province of Iloilo.

SECTION 3. Supervision of the BFAR - Within three (3) years after the construction of the multi-species marine hatchery, the BFAR-DA shall transfer its management to the Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College (NIPSC). It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for NIPSC personnel on the management and operation of the multi-species marine hatchery.

SECTION 4. Continuing Research- The BFAR-DA and NIPSC shall conduct continuing research and development on the multi-species marine hatchery to discover new methods that will enhance the fishing industry.

SECTION 5. Budget Allocation. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department of Agriculture's programs the establishment of the multi-species marine hatchery in the Municipality of Concepcion, Iloilo, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act. The NIPSC shall set aside funds from any available revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the hatchery.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The BFAR-DA and the NIPSC shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision and monitoring, and the transfer or withdrawal by the BFAR, of the multi-species marine hatchery.

SECTION 7. Effectivity.- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,