

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5331



Introduced By : Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo and Rep. Abdullah D. Dimaporo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a freshwater aquaculture center for multi-species breeding farm and hatchery in the Municipality of Balo-i, Province of Lanao Del Norte.

The Province of Lanao Del Norte is blessed with rich fishing grounds in the Municipality of Balo-i. The waters in these areas are generally free from pollution and provide an ideal place for research and breeding activities. Fishing in these areas has been an integral part of the local economy and will continue to be so in the next generations.

In recognition of the sector's actual and potential contributions to the national economy, its full development should be maximized. The government should take the lead by allocating considerable resources in research and development by providing a marine multi-species breeding farm and hatchery in the Municipality of Balo-i.

Furthermore, the approval of this measure shall help in the economic growth and contribute to national development by providing employment opportunities and a sustainable aquaculture productivity.

In view of the significance of this measure to national development, the prompt approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


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First District, Lanao del Norte


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Second District, Lanao del Norte

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRESHWATER AQUACULTURE CENTER UNDER THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES FOR A MULTI-SPECIES BREEDING FARM AND HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALO-I, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a fresh water multi-species breeding farm and hatchery in the Municipality of Balo-i, Province of Lanao Del Norte.

SEC. 2. The Lanao del Norte Freshwater Aquaculture Center shall conduct continuing research and experimentation on the breeding and production of multi-species, especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and technology adaptive of prevailing weather conditions that will rejuvenate the freshwater aquaculture industry.

SEC. 3. The Center shall disperse high-variety fry and fingerlings in public bodies of water in such intervals as may be recommended by the Local Advisory Council established in the succeeding section. It may also sell such fry and fingerlings to individual or organized fish farmers at prevailing market prices.

SEC. 4. There shall be established a Local Advisory Council that shall provide policy direction for the Center and facilitate the exchange of information between the Center and the stakeholders. The council shall be composed of the BFAR Director for Region X as Chairman, the Provincial Governor of Lanao del Norte as Co-Chairman, the President of the Municipal Mayor's League of Lanao del Norte, the Mayor of the Municipality of Balo-i and three representatives from the local fisheries sector to be appointed by the Governor as members.

SEC. 5. The BFAR-DA shall conduct continuing research and experimentation on marine multi-species culture, especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and technology that will rejuvenate the fishing industry.

SEC. 6. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of the marine multi-specie breeding farm and hatchery in the Municipality of Balo-i, Province of Lanao Del Norte, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government unit concerned shall set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate for their operationalization.

SEC. 7. The BFAR-DA shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.