

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5626**



BY REPRESENTATIVE RUBY M. SAHALI

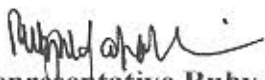
EXPLANATORY NOTE

In acknowledgment of the intents and purposes of the previous authors of this House Bill in the Fifteenth Congress modified to fit the viability of its establishment, this Bill seeks to establish a modified mariculture development park in the adjacent Municipalities of Simunul and Panglima Sugala, in the Province of Tawi-Tawi to increase the economic opportunities for development of the people of Tawi-Tawi whose lifeblood is fishing and seaweeds farming.

Tawi-Tawi lies in the Southernmost tip of the Philippines and as a group of island municipalities, it is blessed with an abundance of fertile soil and a tropical climate conducive for the cultivation of a wide variety of agricultural crops. The surrounding sea yields a harvest of rich aquatic products of high commercial value. It is widely known for its rich seaweed resources.

The establishment of a mariculture park in Tawi-Tawi will aid in providing a sustainable livelihood diversification option for the people of Tawi-Tawi engaged in mariculture development.

Thus is the intent of the passage of this Bill.


Representative Ruby M. Sahali
Lone District, Tawi-Tawi
Principal Author

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MODIFIED MARICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PARK IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF SIMUNUL AND PANGLIMA SUGALA, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture, a modified mariculture development park in the municipalities of Simunul and Panglima Sugala Province of Tawi-Tawi.

SEC. 2. The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA) and the Mindanao State University Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography (MSU-TCTO) are hereby tasked to provide technical assistance in the establishment and maintenance of such facilities as may be necessary to implement the intents and purposes of this Act. For this purpose, the BFAR-DA, together with the MSU-TCTO and the concerned local government units (LGUs), shall formulate the operating guidelines necessary for the operation of the said modified mariculture development park.

SEC. 3. The BFAR-DA, in coordination with the MSU-TCTO and the concerned LGUs, shall conduct continuing marine biological research for the purpose of improving the said park and for maximizing income potentials of the fisherfolks in the area.

SEC. 4. The base of research operations shall be the MSU-TCTO main campus and the BFAR-DA in Tawi-Tawi.

SEC. 5. The BFAR-DA and the LGUs concerned, in collaboration with the MSU-TCTO, shall take such steps as may be necessary to promote and attract investments in this field of economic and scientific endeavor.

SEC. 6. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's program the funding requirements to establish and operate the said modified mariculture development park. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the same shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,