

Dir. Angelina Del Mundo.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

8549
House Bill No. _____



Introduced by: Rep. Josephine Y. Ramirez-Sato

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Province of Occidental Mindoro's economic backbone is primarily agriculture and fisheries. Its proximity to the Verde Island Passage (the world's Center of Marine Biodiversity) contribute to boosts its fisheries sector. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reported that in the first quarter of 2020 alone, the province's commercial fisheries production totaled to 1,253 metric tons, 1,764 metric tons from marine municipal fisheries, 21 metric tons from inland fisheries, and 39 metric tons from aquaculture. This is equivalent to 6.8% of percentage share of total fisheries production in the region.

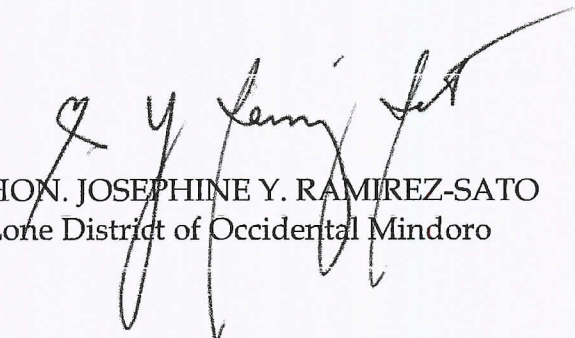
With impending threat of dwindling fish stocks, it necessitates that the State to provide immediate support to fisherfolks through provision of appropriate technology, research, financial and marketing assistance, and other services enshrined under the Constitution. These include making available technologies that improve stocks of high-value marine commodities such as the multi-species marine hatchery.

This proposed measure aims to establish multi-species marine hatcheries strategically located in the municipalities of San Jose, Calintaan, Paluan, and Lubang in Occidental Mindoro. It is envisioned that the multi-species marine hatcheries will

help the province address its nutritional and economic needs by enabling the fisherfolks to keep pace with increasing demand of marine products and high-valued species locally and abroad. Thereby, contributing to improve the economic well-being and livelihood of families, and the whole province.

The establishment of these facilities are also expected to complement the efforts of the LGUs and its stakeholders to the thirty (30) locally established Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) all over the province. Therefore, balancing conservation with economic development.

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



HON. JOSEPHINE Y. RAMIREZ-SATO
Lone District of Occidental Mindoro

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. **8549** _____

Introduced by: Rep. Josephine Y. Ramirez-Sato

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CENTRAL MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE, AND SATELLITE MULTI-SPECIES
MARINE HATCHERIES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CALINTAAN, PALUAN
AND LUBANG, PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO, 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 central multi-species marine hatchery in the Municipality of San Jose, and satellite multi-species marine hatcheries in the Municipalities of Calintaan, Paluan and Lubang, all in the Province of Occidental Mindoro.

SEC 2. The BFAR-DA shall, within two (2) years after the establishment of the multi-species hatcheries, transfer the management of the same to the local government unit concerned and Occidental Mindoro State College (OMSC) through a memorandum of agreement. The BFAR-DA shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management and operation of the hatcheries.

The BFAR-DA and OMSC shall jointly conduct continuing R&D and extension services, and experimentation on the breeding and production of marine species, especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and technology that shall benefit the fisheries industry.

SEC 3. The extension program that caters to the marginal fisherfolks shall be developed by BFAR-DA and/ or OMSC for the propagation of marine species of high economic value.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of the central multi-species marine hatchery in the Municipality of San Jose, and satellite multi-species marine hatcheries in the Municipalities of Calintaan, Paluan and Lubang, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government units concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the central and satellite hatcheries.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the management of the central and satellite multi-species marine hatcheries to the local governments of San Jose, Calintaan, Paluan, and Lubang.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in the newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,