

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2654**



*Introduced by Rep. Sittie Aminah Q. Dimaporo and Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo*

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to establish a coastal aquaculture center in the Municipality of Lala, Province of Lanao Del Norte.

The Province of Lanao Del Norte is blessed with rich fishing grounds in Panguil Bay and in the coastal areas of the Municipality of Lala facing Panguil Bay. 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 coastal aquaculture center in the Municipality of Lala. In line with this, it will help the existing Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Lala Aquaculture Fish farm build stronger partnerships with Local Government Units (LGUs) and improve its services to the people of the Municipality of Lala, Province of Lanao Del Norte.

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.

  
**SITTIE AMINAH Q. DIMAPORO**  
*Second District, Lanao del Norte*

  
**MOHAMAD KHALID Q. DIMAPORO**  
*First District, Lanao del Norte*

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**AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING A COASTAL AQUACULTURE CENTER TO SUPPORT AND REHABILITATE THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES NORTHERN MINDANAO BRACKISHWATER AQUACULTURE FISH FARM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LALA, 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 coastal aquaculture center to further enhance the operations of the BFAR Northern Mindanao Brackishwater Aquaculture Fish Farm in the Municipality of Lala, Province of Lanao Del Norte.

SEC. 2. The BFAR-DA shall conduct continuing technological verification and experimentation on coastal aquaculture, especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and technology that will rejuvenate the fishing industry.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of the coastal aquaculture center and the rehabilitation of the BFAR Northern Mindanao Brackishwater Aquaculture Fish Farm in the Municipality of Lala, Province of Lanao Del Norte, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days, the BFAR-DA shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a 'newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*