



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **9533**

Introduced by Representative Christian S. Unabia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a multi-species freshwater fish and marine hatchery in Barangay Poblacion, Municipality of Salay, Province of Misamis Oriental.

A fish hatchery is a facility designed to cultivate and breed fish in an enclosed artificial environment. It provides for fish eggs to develop and hatch by maintaining proper water temperature, oxygen levels, disease control, food, and protection from predators. Hatcheries are also used for stock enhancement and are also known as "*restoration aquaculture*" through which fish and shellfish are raised in a hatchery and then released to a bigger environment to be grown to a desired weight and thereafter harvested to supplement the demands of the consuming public.

The government is pushing for the establishment of fish hatcheries to distribute fingerlings to fishpond operators to increase their harvest and support the country's supply of marine products. In Misamis Oriental, there are sixty (60) units of registered Norwegian cages, thirty-one (31) units of bamboo cages cultivating milkfish, and fishpond with a total area of 107.727 hectares used for monoculture and polyculture of tilapia, bangus, hito, koi, shrimp and other marine species. However, the harvest is insufficient to meet the increasing demand for freshwater and marine products in Misamis Oriental and adjoining provinces.

The Municipality of Salay is a coastal town with fishing as one of the major sources of income among the Salayanos. It is also prone to typhoons and floods and other natural disasters. Promoting aquaculture in the area will help mitigate losses for these fishermen who are relying on fishing in the open sea during natural disasters.

The establishment of a multi-species freshwater fish and marine hatchery in Barangay Poblacion, Municipality of Salay will encourage people to venture into commercial fish farming. When fingerlings are abundant and available in the area, this will eventually solve the increasing demand for aquaculture production in Region 10.

The hatchery will be designed to support the growth and reproduction of different species, cultivation and breeding of a variety of highly valued aquatic species, and promote commercial fish farming.

The hatchery will provide a sustainable source of income and opportunities for the local community of Salay, lower operating capital for fish farmers, and more revenues to the local government unit. It will also meet the increasing demand for marine products in the country.

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


CHRISTIAN S. UNABIA



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **9533**

Introduced by Representative Christian S. Unabia

1 **AN ACT**
2 **ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES FRESHWATER FISH AND**
3 **MARINE HATCHERY IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY**
4 **OF SALAY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL, AND**
5 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
6

7 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Republic of*
8 *the Philippines in Congress assembled.*
9

10 SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the
11 Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture
12 (BFAR-DA), a multi-species freshwater fish and marine hatchery in Barangay
13 Poblacion, Municipality of Salay, Province of Misamis Oriental.

14 SEC. 2. Prior to the establishment of the multi-species freshwater fish and
15 marine hatchery, the BFAR-DA shall conduct a full-scale feasibility study in
16 support of its construction to comply with the requirements of the Department of
17 Budget and Management.

1 Within two (2) years after the construction of the multi-species freshwater
2 fish and marine hatchery, the BFAR shall, through a memorandum of agreement,
3 transfer its management to the local government unit concerned. It shall
4 implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on
5 the management and operation of the multi-species freshwater fish and marine
6 hatchery.

7 SEC. 3. The BFAR-DA shall conduct continuing research and
8 experimentation on the breeding and production of freshwater fish species,
9 especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and
10 technologies that will enhance the fishing industry.

11 SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's
12 programs the conduct of the feasibility study and the consequent establishment
13 of multi-species freshwater fish and marine hatchery in Barangay Poblacion,
14 Municipality of Salay, Province of Misamis Oriental, the funding of which shall
15 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government unit
16 concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount
17 deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the hatchery.

18 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the
19 Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the necessary rules and regulations on the
20 supervision, operation, monitoring, and eventual transfer of the management of
21 the multi-species freshwater fish and marine hatchery to the local government of
22 the Municipality of Salay, Province of Misamis Oriental.

1 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
2 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
3 Approved,