



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



Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. **9815**

Introduced by Representative Christian S. Unabia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

A fish hatchery is a facility designed to cultivate and breed a large number of 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.

In Misamis Oriental, there are currently 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, and shrimp. However, the harvest is insufficient to meet the increasing demand for freshwater and marine products in Misamis Oriental and adjoining provinces. The establishment of a multi-species freshwater and marine hatchery in Barangay Portulin in the Municipality of Medina will produce sufficient fingerlings for distribution to fishpond operators in the area and encourage other people to venture in aquaculture.

The proposed measure will support the growth and reproduction of different species through cultivation and breeding of a variety of highly valued

aquatic species, whichever is applicable, to the climate condition of the Municipality of Medina. Further, the establishment of a hatchery will also provide a sustainable source of income and employment opportunities for the local community of Medina.

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



CHRISTIAN S. UNABIA



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

7 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
8 *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 and marine hatchery in Barangay
13 Portulin, Municipality of Medina, Province of Misamis Oriental.

14 SEC. 2. Prior to the establishment of the multi-species freshwater 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
17 of Budget and Management.

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

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

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

17 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the
18 Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision,
19 operation, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the hatchery to the local
20 government of the Municipality of Medina.

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

3 Approved,