

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9856



Introduced by Representative Ivan Howard A. Guintu

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 7, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution provides that “[t]he State shall protect the rights of subsistence fishermen, especially of local communities, to the preferential use of local marine and fishing resources, both inland and offshore. It shall provide support to such fishermen through appropriate technology and research, adequate financial, production, and marketing assistance, and other services.”

Despite this constitutional provision, our fisherfolks remain to have the highest poverty incidence among the basic sectors in 2021. One of the reasons for this is the loss of potential income of fisherfolks due to the losses incurred during the post-harvest of fishes. Around 25-40% of fishes that are caught end up spoiling due to lack of post-harvest facilities and equipment.

This bill seeks to establish a fish port in the municipality of Panay in the Province of Capiz. Panay boasts a rich fishing ground that can greatly benefit from the establishment of the fish port. This will further bolster the productivity of the fisheries industry in the area by reducing post-harvest losses due to wastage and spoilage, thereby uplifting the livelihood of local subsistence fisherfolks.

In view of this, early passage of this bill is sought.



IVAN HOWARD A. GUINTU
Representative, PINUNO Partylist

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A FISH PORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PANAY, PROVINCE
OF CAPIZ, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture, through the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA), a fish port in the Municipality of Panay, Province of Capiz.

SEC. 2. Within two (2) years after the construction of the fish port, the PFDA, through a memorandum of agreement, shall transfer its management to the local government unit concerned. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management and operation of the fish port.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of the fish port, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the fish port.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision and monitoring, and the transfer or withdrawal by the PFDA of the fish port.

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

Approved,