

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 4985

Introduced by:

HON. CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 8437 declared it the policy of the State "to enable those who belong to the agriculture and fisheries sectors to participate and share in the fruits of development and growth in a manner that utilizes the nation's resources in the most efficient and sustainable way possible by establishing a more equitable access to assets, income, basic and support services and infrastructure."

Consistent with this policy, the State is likewise committed to empowering the agriculture and fisheries sector to develop and sustain themselves in accordance with the principles of poverty alleviation and social equity, food security, rational use of resources, global competitiveness, sustainable development, people empowerment, and protection from unfair competition.

Fish ports serve as vital post-harvest facilities that extend the marketable life of fisherfolk's catch and provide accessible distribution points for both nearby communities and distant markets. They are essential to ensuring food security and uplifting the livelihood of fisherfolk and fish workers.

This measure, which had been approved by the House of Representatives and transmitted to the Senate in the 18th and 19th Congress, seeks to further empower fisherfolk, enhance the fisheries sector, and contribute to food security through the establishment of a fish port in the Municipality of San Francisco, Province of Southern Leyte.

In view of the foregoing, and in the spirit of SERBISYONG TINUORAY (genuine public service), the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP
Representative, Second District of Southern Leyte

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A FISH PORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO,
PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. — This Act shall be known as the "San Francisco Fish Port Act."

SEC. 2. Establishment of a Fish Port. — 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 San Francisco, Province of Southern Leyte.

SEC. 3. Transfer of Management to the Local Government Unit. — Within two (2) years from the completion of the construction of the fish port, the PFDA, through a memorandum of agreement, shall transfer the management and operation of the fish port to the local government unit (LGU) of San Francisco. The PFDA shall implement a training and phasing-in program for LGU personnel to ensure the effective management and operation of the fish port.

SEC. 4. Appropriations. — The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of the fish port in the Municipality of San Francisco, Province of Southern Leyte, 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 revenues in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the fish port.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, through the PFDA and in coordination with the LGU of San Francisco shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the supervision, operation, monitoring, and eventual transfer of the fish port to the LGU.

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

Approved,