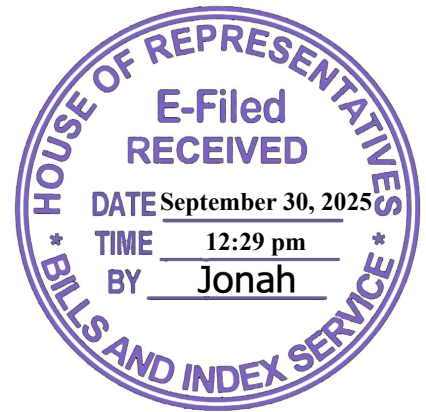


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila  
  
**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session  
  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 4987**



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Introduced by:

**HON. CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Municipality of Pintuyan, located at the southern tip of Panaon Island in the Province of Southern Leyte, is home to over ten thousand (10,000) residents, based on the 2020 Census on Population and Housing. This municipality, together with the rest of Panaon Island, was severely affected by Typhoon Odette (Rai), which made landfall in the region, resulting in significant economic losses and the destruction of livelihoods, particularly among fisherfolk.

This bill seeks to establish a satellite multi-species marine hatchery in Pintuyan to support the recovery and sustainable development of the municipality and its neighboring towns of San Francisco and San Ricardo. The primary objective is to assist local communities in rebuilding their sources of income and food security, which have been gravely impacted not only by natural disasters but also by the persistent decline in fish catch reported by local fisherfolk even prior to the typhoon.

The introduction of fish hatchery technology, which has been globally recognized as an effective means to enhance fish production, remains limited in the Philippines due to the high cost of establishment and operation. Government investment in such facilities is therefore essential to empower local fisherfolk and fish operators, enabling them to increase their yield and improve their standard of living.

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR), as well as the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), have consistently advocated for the establishment of fish hatcheries to address the country's growing need for sustainable aquatic food sources and to promote food security and poverty alleviation among

coastal communities [see, for example, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12107 (2024), REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12109 (2024), and REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12111 (2024)].

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**

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
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**HOUSE BILL NO. 4987**

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Introduced by:

**HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE**  
**MUNICIPALITY OF PINTUYAN, 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. Title.** — This Act shall be known as the "Pintuyan Satellite Multi-Species Marine Hatchery Act."

**SECTION 2. Establishment of the Hatchery.** — There shall be established, under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (DA-BFAR), a satellite multi-species marine hatchery in the Municipality of Pintuyan, Province of Southern Leyte.

**SECTION 3. Feasibility Study Requirement.** — Prior to the establishment of the satellite multi-species marine hatchery, the DA-BFAR shall conduct a full-scale feasibility study in support of its construction to comply with the requirements of the Department of Budget and Management.

**SECTION 4. Transfer of Management and Capacity Building.** — Within two (2) years after the construction of the satellite multi-species marine hatchery, the DA-BFAR, through a memorandum of agreement, shall transfer its management to the local government of the Municipality of Pintuyan. The DA-BFAR shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management and operation of the hatchery.

**SECTION 5. Funding and Appropriations.** — The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the conduct of the feasibility study and the consequent establishment of the satellite multi-species marine hatchery in the Municipality of Pintuyan, 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 revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the hatchery.

**SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** — Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the establishment, supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the management of the satellite multi-species marine hatchery to the local government of the Municipality of Pintuyan, Province of Southern Leyte.

**SECTION 7. Repealing Clause.** — All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 8. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*