

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5713**



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**Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

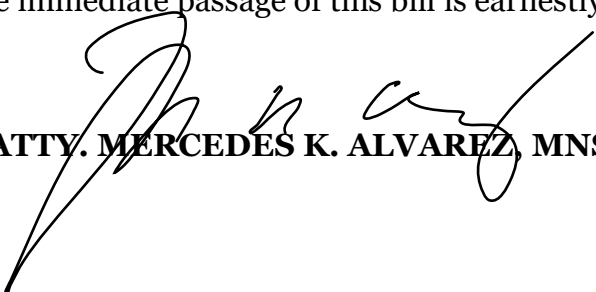
This bill seeks to establish a central multi-species marine hatchery in the City of Sipalay, Province of Negros Occidental.

Over the years, the marine resources of the Philippines have suffered significant depletion, largely due to illegal and unsustainable fishing practices. To address this continuing decline, there is an urgent need to replenish and restore marine life through the creation of multi-species hatcheries in strategic locations.

The proposed hatchery will serve as a central facility for fish seed production and the development and stabilization of aquaculture activities in not only in the City of Sipalay but also in the region. By supporting the propagation of various marine species, it will ensure a sustainable supply of fish and other aquatic resources vital to local livelihoods and food security.

Finally, the establishment of this hatchery will contribute to the enhancement of marine biodiversity and the promotion of environmental conservation, thereby supporting long-term ecological balance and sustainable coastal development.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**ATTY. MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A CENTRAL MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN**  
**THE CITY OF SIPALAY, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL AND**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           Section 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Bureau of  
2 Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (“DA-BFAR”), a  
3 central multi-species marine hatchery in the City of Sipalay, Province of Negros  
4 Occidental.

5  
6           Sec. 2. Prior to the establishment of the multi-species marine hatchery, the DA-  
7 BFAR shall conduct a full-scale feasibility study in support of its construction to  
8 comply with the requirements of the Department of Budget and Management.

9  
10          Within two (2) years after the construction of the multi-species marine  
11 hatchery, the DA-BFAR, through a memorandum of agreement, shall transfer its  
12 management to the local government of the City of Sipalay. It shall implement a  
13 training and phasing-in program for local government personnel of the City of Sipalay

1 in collaboration with the Central Philippines State University (“CPSU”) on the  
2 management and operation of the hatchery.

3  
4 Sec. 3. The DA-BFAR, the local government of the City of Sipalay, and the  
5 CPSU, shall conduct continuing research and experimentation on the breeding and  
6 production of marine species, especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover  
7 new methods and technologies that will enhance the fishing industry.

8  
9 Sec. 4. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (“DA”) shall include in  
10 the program of the department, the conduct of the feasibility study and the consequent  
11 establishment of the central multi-species marine hatchery in the City of Sipalay,  
12 Province of Negros Occidental, the funding of which shall be included in the General  
13 Appropriations Act. The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from  
14 any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the  
15 operationalization of the hatchery.

16  
17 Sec. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of  
18 the DA and the local government of the City of Sipalay shall issue the rules and  
19 regulations on the supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the  
20 management of the central multi-species marine hatchery to the local government of  
21 the City of Sipalay, Province of Negros Occidental.

22  
23 Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the  
24 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

*Approved,*