



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **6595**



Introduced by Representative JC RAHMAN A. NAVA, M.D.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution provides that the "State shall protect the rights of subsistence of fishermen, especially of local communities, to the preferential use of communal marine and fishing resources, both inland and offshore." Furthermore, the State shall "provide support to such fishermen through appropriate technology and research, adequate financial, production and marketing assistance, and other services."

Guimaras Island is home to abundant fishing grounds rich in marine resources, including the Guimaras Strait, Iloilo Strait, Panay Gulf and the Visayan Sea. The fishing industry is a major contributor to the provincial economy and exhibits a strong potential for further growth.

This is a re-filed bill wherein during the previous Congress, Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava filed House Bill No. 3343 which was approved on Third Reading by the House of Representatives but was not able to advance further. Re-filing this bill is earnestly sought to establish a municipal fish port with an ice plant and cold storage facility in Barangay Cabalagnan, Municipality of Nueva Valencia, a traditional and strategically located fish landing area. The proposed facility shall serve as a main distribution center with efficient post-harvest facilities that meet the industry requirements for quality and volume of fishery products.

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

JC RAHMAN A. NAVA, M.D.



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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISHPORT WITH ICE PLANT AND COLD STORAGE FACILITY IN BARANGAY CABALAGNAN, MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, 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 (DA), through the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA), a municipal fish port complete with an ice plant and cold storage facility in Barangay Cabalagnan, Municipality of Nueva Valencia, Province of Guimaras.

SECTION 2. Within two (2) years after the completion of the fish port with ice plant and cold storage facility, the PFDA, through a Memorandum of Agreement, shall transfer the management and operation of the facility to the concerned Local Government Unit (LGU). The PFDA shall also implement a training and phasing-in-program for the LGU personnel to ensure on the effective management and operation of the fishport, ice plant and cold storage facility.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment and maintenance of the fishport, ice plant and cold storage facility, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA). The concerned LGU shall allocate funds from its available local revenue for the continued operation and maintenance of the facility.

SECTION 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulation on the supervision, monitoring and the transfer to the local government unit concerned by the PFDA of the said fish port.

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

Approved,