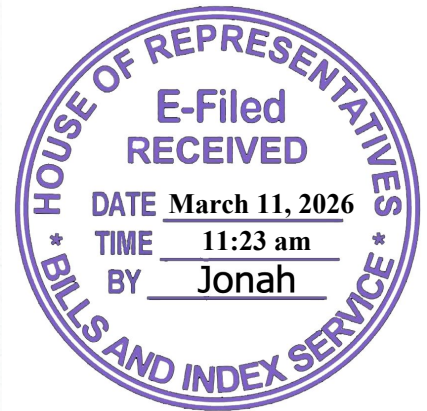


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8425**



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO
AND JOCELYN P. TULFO

AN ACT

MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FISHERFOLK RESETTLEMENT AREA BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SEC. 108 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998," AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10654

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998," as amended by Republic Act No. 10654, upholds food security as a primary policy and promotes sustainable management of fishery resources. It protects the rights of fisherfolks particularly in ensuring development, conservation, and enjoyment of fishery and aquatic resources.

The Philippine Fisheries Code has made explicit the reservation for and establishment of fisherfolk settlement areas near fishing grounds, to be done in coordination with concerned agencies of the government. However, this provision lacks clear authority as it failed to identify the appropriate government agency that should lead the implementation of the same.

This bill aims to rectify that. Through the proposed amendment, the Department of Agriculture, Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the local government units (LGUs) of cities or municipalities exercising jurisdiction over coastal areas and municipal waters are mandated to identify, establish, and create settlement areas which have adequate access to fishing grounds. In previously identified or established settlement areas, the fisherfolk without real property shall be granted preference in the award of settlement rights within their respective city or municipality. Further, LGUs will be mandated to integrate settlement areas for fisherfolk in their respective comprehensive land use plans.

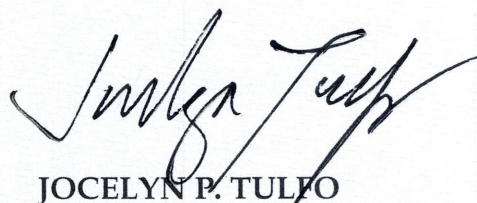
In view of the foregoing, the urgent passing of this bill is earnestly sought.



RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO

Representative

2nd District of Quezon City



JOCELYN P. TULFO

Representative

ACT-CIS Partylist

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8425**

**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO
AND JOCELYN P. TULFO**

AN ACT

**MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FISHERFOLK RESETTLEMENT
AREA BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
UNITS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SEC. 108 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.
8550, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998,"
AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10654**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 108 of Republic Act No. 8850, otherwise known as "The
2 Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", as amended by Republic Act No. 10654, is hereby
3 amended to read as follows:

4
5 SEC. 108. *Fisherfolk Settlement Areas.* - [The Department shall establish
6 and create fisherfolk settlement areas in coordination with concerned
7 agencies of the government, where certain areas of the public domain,
8 specifically near the fishing ground, shall be reserved for the settlement
9 of the municipal fisherfolk. Nothing in this section shall be construed to

1 vest ownership of any resettlement area to a municipal fisherfolk for
2 whom said areas may have been reserved for or had been actually
3 granted to.]

4 THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF
5 HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
6 DEPARTMENT OF ENVORNMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
7 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS OF CITIES OR
8 MUNICIPALITIES EXERCISING JURISDICTION OVER COASTAL
9 AREAS AND MUNICIPAL WATERS, SHALL IDENTIFY, ESTABLISH,
10 AND CREATE SETTLEMENT AREAS WHICH HAVE ADEQUATE
11 ACCESS TO FISHING GROUNDS: PROVIDED, THAT IN
12 PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED OR ESTABLISHED SETTLEMENT AREAS
13 WITH ADEQUATE ACCESS TO FISHING GROUNDS, FISHERFOLK
14 SHALL BE GRANTED PREFERENCE IN THE AWARD OF
15 SETTLEMENT RIGHTS THEREAT: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT
16 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SETTLEMENT AREAS SHALL BE IN
17 FAVOR OF FISHERFOLK WHO ARE REGISTERED AS SUCH WITH
18 THEIR RESPECTIVE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY AND WHO ARE
19 WITHOUT REAL PROPERTY: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT LOCAL
20 GOVERNMENT UNITS EXERCISING JURISDICTION OVER
21 COASTAL AREAS AND MUNICIPAL WATERS ARE HEREBY
22 MANDATED TO INTEGRATE SETTLEMENT AREAS FOR
23 FISHERFOLK IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE
24 PLANS".

25
26 **SEC. 2. Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
27 unconstitutional or invalid, the other portions or provisions hereof, which are not
28 affected thereby, shall remain in full force and effect.
29

1 **SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All other laws, decrees, orders, circulars, issuances,
2 rules, and regulations and part thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
3 repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

4
5 **SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
6 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation,

7
8 Approved,