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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 7498

By Representatives Bravo (M.V.) and Nograles (K.A.), per Committee Report No. 709

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTISPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATUAN, TICAO ISLAND, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a multispecies marine hatchery in the Municipality of Batuan, Ticao Island, Province of Masbate.

SEC. 2. The BFAR-DA, through a memorandum of agreement, shall transfer the management of the multispecies marine hatchery to the local government unit concerned within two (2) years after its construction. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management and operation of the hatchery.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of the multispecies marine hatchery in the Municipality of Batuan, Ticao Island, Province of Masbate, 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 multispecies marine hatchery.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the establishment, supervision, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the management of the hatchery to the local government of Batuan, Ticao Island, Province of Masbate.

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

Approved,