



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8119

BY REPRESENTATIVES TOLENTINO AND HERNANDEZ, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 524

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES FISH HATCHERY AND RESEARCH CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAIC, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries
2 and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (DA-BFAR), a multi-species fish hatchery
3 and research center to be known as the Naic Aquaculture Center in the Municipality of Naic,
4 Province of Cavite.

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6 SEC. 2. Prior to the establishment of the Naic Aquaculture Center, the DA-BFAR shall
7 prepare a project study and/or proposal detailing the mechanics of a research center and shall
8 conduct a full-scale feasibility study in support of the construction of the hatchery to comply with
9 the requirements of the Department of Budget and Management.

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11 SEC. 3. The DA-BFAR, through a memorandum of agreement with the local government
12 of the Municipality of Naic, shall constitute and convene a Local Advisory Council which shall be
13 the policy making body of the Center and shall facilitate the exchange of information among the
14 stakeholders. The Council shall be composed of seven (7) members consisting of the following:

- 15 (a) Regional DA-BFAR Director for Region IV-A as Chairperson;
16 (b) Governor of the Province of Cavite as Co-Chairperson;
17 (c) President of the Municipal Mayors League of Cavite;
18 (d) Mayor of the Municipality of Naic; and
19 (e) Three (3) representatives from the local fisheries sectors.

20 The three (3) representatives from the local fisheries sectors shall be appointed by the
21 Governor of the Province of Cavite.

22 SEC. 4. The Naic Aquaculture Center and the DA-BFAR shall conduct continuing research
23 and experimentation on the breeding and production of both freshwater and saltwater fish,
24 especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and technologies that shall
25 benefit the freshwater and saltwater aquaculture industries.

1 Further, the Center shall disperse fish fry and fingerlings in public bodies of water in such
2 intervals as may be recommended by the Local Advisory Council. It may also sell such fry and
3 fingerlings to individual or organized fish farmers at prevailing market prices.

4 SEC. 5. Within two (2) years after its establishment, the DA-BFAR shall transfer the Naic
5 Aquaculture Center to the local government of the Municipality of Naic through a memorandum of
6 agreement.

7 The DA-BFAR shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government
8 personnel and the members of the Local Advisory Council on the management and operation of the
9 Naic Aquaculture Center.

10 SEC. 6. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the
11 conduct of the feasibility study and the consequent establishment of the Naic Aquaculture Center in
12 the Municipality of Naic, Province of Cavite, the funding of which shall be included in the General
13 Appropriations Act. The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available
14 local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the Naic Aquaculture
15 Center.

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17 SEC. 7. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture,
18 in coordination with the local governments of the Province of Cavite and the Municipality of Naic,
19 shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual
20 transfer of the management of the Naic Aquaculture Center to the local government of the
21 Municipality of Naic.

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

Approved,