



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8126

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BY REPRESENTATIVES PRIMICIAS-AGABAS AND HERNANDEZ, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 531

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES FRESHWATER FISH HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALUNGAO, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, 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 freshwater  
3 fish hatchery in the Municipality of Balungao, Province of Pangasinan.

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

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9           Within two (2) years after the construction of the multi-species freshwater fish hatchery, the  
10 DA-BFAR shall, through a memorandum of agreement, transfer its management to the local  
11 government of the Municipality of Balungao, Province of Pangasinan. It shall implement a training  
12 and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management and operation of the  
13 hatchery.

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15           SEC. 3. The DA-BFAR shall conduct continuing research and experimentation on the  
16 breeding and production of freshwater fish species, especially as they apply to local conditions, to  
17 discover new methods and technologies that will enhance the fishing industry.

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19           SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the  
20 conduct of the feasibility study and the consequent establishment of the multi-species freshwater

1 fish hatchery in the Municipality of Balungao, Province of Pangasinan, the funding of which shall  
2 be included in the General Appropriations Act. The local government unit concerned shall set aside  
3 funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization  
4 of the hatchery.

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6 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture  
7 shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual  
8 transfer of the management of the multi-species freshwater fish hatchery to the local government  
9 of the Municipality of Balungao, Province of Pangasinan.

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11 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
12 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,