It is the policy of the State to enhance the production of livestock by applying advanced modern technology in a sustainable environment with the end in view of attaining food security for domestic use and expanding/diversifying agricultural production for export.

In realizing this policy, Executive Order no. 116, s. 1987 further mandates the Bureau of Animal Industry to formulate long- and short-range programs for the development and expansion of the livestock, poultry, and dairy industries to meet the protein requirements of the growing populace; recommend the specific policies and procedures governing the flow of livestock products through the various stages of marketing, as well as the proper preservation and inspection of such products; coordinate and monitor the activities and projects relating to livestock and allied industries; prescribe standards for quality in the manufacture, importation, labeling, advertising, distribution, and sale of livestock, poultry and allied industries.

A Report on the Performance of Agriculture, which the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) releases every quarter, shows that the livestock sector in CARAGA remains to be the lowest from years 2014 to 2018, not to mention its decline from the said years, with the region’s livestock inventory (carabao, cattle, goat, and swine) totaling 394, 517 and 378, 742 respectively. Particularly, the Province of Dinagat Islands shows the lowest livestock inventory of 10,818 for 2014 and 11,119 for 2018. Although increasing in number for both years, Dinagat still lands the lowest among all the provinces in the country, hence glaringly necessitating assistance from the Department of Agriculture and related agencies.

The Province of Dinagat Islands depends on agriculture as a basic source of its economic welfare. As one of the youngest provinces in the country, it is high time to hone its livestock sector as an aid to bolster the province’s edge in agriculture. Further, given the recurrent disease outbreaks in the country, it can be gleaned that Dinagat, as a geographically challenged province, is a strategic location for breeding healthy and quality livestock animals which are less likely to acquire dangerous communicable diseases. Furthermore, no less than the President has acknowledged in his recent State of the Nation Address that the growth of our economy depends on a robust agricultural sector. Hence, all divisions of agriculture such as the livestock industry must correspondingly be given paramount importance.
With all these, the establishment of Provincial Livestock Center in the Municipality of Loreto, Dinagat Islands is hereby requested for the growth and development of our provincial and national livestock industry.

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

ALAN T. B. ECLEO
Representative, Lone District of Dinagat Islands
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7393

Introduced by Hon. ALAN 1 B. ECLEO

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL LIVESTOCK CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LORETO, PROVINCE OF DINAGAT ISLANDS 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 and maintained, under the direct supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry, a provincial livestock center in the Municipality of Loreto, Province of Dinagat Islands to be known as the Dinagat Livestock Center for the purpose of promoting a productive and profitable animal industry with the end view of ensuring food security, health, and welfare.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Department of Agriculture shall immediately include in the agency’s programs the operationalization of the Dinagat Livestock Center, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year’s appropriation of the Department of Agriculture. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of said Dinagat Livestock Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within six (6) months following the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. Separability Clause. Should any part or provision of this Act be held unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. Any other law, issuance or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,