AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A CENTRAL MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLABA, AND SATELLITE MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERIES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CALUBIAN AND LEYTE, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, 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 central multi-species marine hatchery in the Municipality of Villaba, and satellite multi-species marine hatcheries in the Municipalities of Calubian and Leyte, all in the Province of Leyte.

SEC. 2. The BFAR-DA shall, within two (2) years after their construction, transfer the management of the respective multi-species marine hatcheries to the local government units of Villaba, Calubian, and Leyte through a memorandum of agreement. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management and operation of the hatcheries.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department’s programs the establishment of the central hatchery in the Municipality of Villaba, and the satellite multi-species marine hatcheries in the Municipalities of Calubian and Leyte, Province of Leyte, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government units concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the central and satellite hatcheries.

Sec. 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision, operation, monitoring,
and the eventual transfer of the management of the central and satellite multi-species marine
hatcheries to the local governments of Villaba, Calubian and Leyte.

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

Approved,