



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4627

Introduced by Representative **GERALDINE B. ROMAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The First Congressional District of the Province of Bataan is composed of the coastal municipalities of Abucay, Hermosa, Morong, Orani, Samal, and a landlocked Dinalupihan. The District has a combined land area of 66,962 hectares and is home to approximately 344,000 based on the 2015 Philippines Statistics Authority Report.

This Bill seeks to establish fish and shrimp hatcheries in all suitable areas in the District to catalyze the development of aquaculture in the municipalities which can provide both direct and indirect employment for its people.

The hatcheries will also contribute to the existing agro/aqua-tourism sites in the District. In fact, there is an existing Philippine National Aquasilviculture Program implemented by the Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU) to rehabilitate denuded mangrove resources, establish aquasilviculture technology demonstration projects as a livelihood option for fisherfolks (while caring for the mangroves they had planted), and establish community-based multi-species hatcheries to increase endemic fish species in the area.

It is the goal of the Bill to institutionalize this existing program and the hatcheries are expected to positively impact the environment and the lives of the marginalized people of the community through the collaborative efforts of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Commission on Higher Education, BPSU, Local Government Units/Municipalities, and the fisherfolks¹. As an example, a Pawikan Conservation Center, a community-based endeavor for the conservation of marine turtles, already exists in Nagbalayong, Morong, Bataan.

The approval of this Bill will contribute to the growth and development of the fisheries, agro/aqua-tourism, and related industries. Immediate passage of this Act is earnestly sought.


GERALDINE B. ROMAN

¹ Flores, R. C., Tungol, F. E., Antonio, A. S., Medeiros, E. D., & Salas, J. M. (2015). BFAR-CHED Philippine National Aquasilviculture Program (PNAP) in Bataan. Lifted from <https://repository.seafdec.org.ph/bitstream/handle/10862/2772/FloresRC2015.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>. Last accessed on 31 August 2019, 11:12PM.



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4627

Introduced by Representative **GERALDINE B. ROMAN**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING MULTI-PURPOSE FISH AND SHRIMP HATCHERIES IN ALL
SUITABLE AREAS IN THE FIRST DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN
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, under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a multi-purpose fish and shrimp hatcheries in all suitable areas in the First District of the Province of Bataan.

Sec. 2. Within two (2) years after the construction of the multi-purpose fish and shrimp hatcheries, the BFAR-DA, through a memorandum of agreement, shall transfer the management of the hatcheries to the local government units (LGUs) concerned. With assistance from the Bataan Peninsula State University, 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 multi-purpose fish and shrimp hatcheries in all suitable areas in the District, 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 their operationalization.

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 multi-purpose fish and shrimp hatcheries to the local government units concerned.

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,