

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H. No. 1119

Introduced by Representative Raul C. Tupas

EXPLANATORY NOTE

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTISPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF AJUY, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

Ajuy is a second class municipality in the province of Iloilo. According to the 2010 census, it had a population of 47,248 people. The town is composed of 34 barangays with a total land area of 17,557.19 hectares. Ajuy is a coastal municipality and agricultural at the same time.

The town is characterized by an irregular terrain with high mountain ranges in the upper western part, rolling hills, flat plains and coastal plains. There are no major rivers in the town but only tributary rivers and creeks such as the Gubaton river, Balogo river, Ga-as river, Pili river, Barrido river, Culasi creek, Nabaye creek, Dulang creek, Piliwan creek, and Serruco river which are the sources of sand and gravel, quarry, irrigation water, and other sources of livelihood among the people living near the river bank.

Majority of the people still rely on farming and fisheries for subsistence. Rice, corn, and sugarcane comprise the major agricultural products of Ajuy. Along its coastal barangays, prawns, crabs and all kinds of fishes are abundant during peak fishing months. Livestock, poultry raising, and tree farming are secondary sources of income of some farmers.

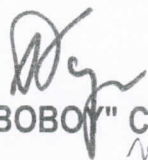
This town has several tourism potential areas that include the island of Calabazas which is home to the "Parola", Nasidman Island, Bay-ang Point at Barangay Bay-ang Peninsula, Salog beach located at the island of Punta Buri, and Panalikdikon Falls in Barangay Tipacla.

This Bill seeks to establish a multi-species marine hatchery in the municipality of Ajuy to catalyze the development of aquaculture in the town which can provide both direct and indirect employment to its people.

The approval of this Bill will contribute to the growth and development of the fisheries sector and allied industries. It will also help increase the income of fisher folks who, together with farmers, require the consistent support of the national government.

The bill was deliberated and approved on Third Reading by the House of Representatives during the 17th Congress.

In view thereof, approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


RAUL "BOBOY" C. TUPAS

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*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
2 Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a
3 multispecies marine hatchery in the Municipality of Ajuy, Province of Iloilo.
4

5 **SECTION 2.** The BFAR-DA shall, within three (3) years after the establishment of the
6 multispecies marine hatchery, transfer the management of the same to the Northern
7 Iloilo Polytechnic State College (NIPSC) through a memorandum of agreement. The
8 BFAR-DA shall implement a training and phasing-in program for NIPSC personnel on
9 the management and operation of the multispecies marine hatchery.
10

11 The BFAR-DA and the NIPSC shall conduct continuing research and
12 experimentation on the breeding and production of marine species, especially as they
13 apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and technology that shall benefit the
14 fisheries industry.
15

16 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs
17 the establishment of the multispecies marine hatchery in the Municipality of Ajuy,
18 Province of Iloilo, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
19 Appropriations Act. The NIPSC concerned shall set aside funds from any available
20 revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the hatchery.
21

22 **SECTION 4.** Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of
23 Agriculture and the NIPSC shall issue the rules and regulations on the establishment,
24 supervision, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the management of the
25 multispecies marine hatchery to the NIPSC.
26

27 **SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official
28 Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.
29 Approved,