



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7544

---

BY REPRESENTATIVE ACOSTA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 459

---

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A CENTRAL MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE CITY ENVIRONMENTAL ESTATE IN BARANGAY STA. LUCIA, CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, 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  
2 Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a central multi-  
3 species marine hatchery in the City Environmental Estate in Barangay Sta. Lucia, City of Puerto  
4 Princesa, Province of Palawan.

5  
6           SEC. 2. The BFAR-DA shall transfer the management of the central multi-species  
7 marine hatchery to the Western Philippines University (WPU) within five (5) years after its  
8 construction through a memorandum of agreement. With the assistance of the Southeast Asian  
9 Fisheries Development Center Aquaculture Division, the BFAR-DA shall implement a training  
10 and phasing-in program for WPU personnel on the management and operation of the central  
11 hatchery.

12  
13           SEC. 3. The BFAR-DA and the WPU shall develop an extension program which shall  
14 cater to marginal fisherfolk to educate them on new methods and technology especially on the  
15 propagation of high-value marine species.

16  
17           SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the  
18 establishment of the central multi-species marine hatchery in the City Environmental Estate in  
19 Barangay Sta. Lucia, City of Puerto Princesa, Province of Palawan, the funding of which shall  
20 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The WPU shall set aside funds from any  
21 available revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the central  
22 hatchery.

23  
24           SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture  
25 shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual  
26 transfer of the management of the multi-species marine hatchery to the WPU.

27  
28           SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
29 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

30  
31           Approved,