



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7500

BY REPRESENTATIVES DIMAPORO (M.K.), DIMAPORO (A.)
AND NOGRALES (K.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT
NO. 711

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRESHWATER MULTISPECIES
HATCHERY AND RESEARCH CENTER IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF BALO-I, PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL
NORTE, 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
2 of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department
3 of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a freshwater multispecies hatchery and
4 research center, to be known as the Lanao del Norte Freshwater
5 Aquaculture Center in the Municipality of Balo-i, Province of Lanao
6 del Norte.

7 SEC. 2. The Lanao del Norte Freshwater Aquaculture Center
8 and the BFAR-DA shall conduct continuing research and
9 experimentation on the breeding and production of freshwater
10 species, especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new

1 methods and technology that shall benefit the freshwater
2 aquaculture industry.

3 SEC. 3. There shall be established a Local Advisory Council
4 that shall provide policy direction for the Center and facilitate the
5 exchange of information among the Center and the stakeholders.
6 The Council shall be composed of the BFAR Director for Region 10
7 as Chairperson, the Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte as
8 Cochairperson, the President of the Municipal Mayors League of
9 Lanao del Norte, the Mayor of the Municipality of Balo-i, and
10 three (3) representatives from the local fisheries sector to be
11 appointed by the Governor as members.

12 SEC. 4. The Center shall disperse fry and fingerlings in public
13 bodies of water in such intervals as may be recommended by the
14 Local Advisory Council. It may also sell such fry and fingerlings to
15 individual or organized fish farmers at prevailing market prices.

16 SEC. 5. The BFAR-DA shall transfer the management of the
17 Center to the local government of the Municipality of Balo-i within
18 two (2) years after its establishment through a memorandum of
19 agreement. The BFAR-DA shall implement a training and
20 phasing-in program for local government personnel on the
21 management and operation of the Center.

22 SEC. 6. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the
23 Department's programs the establishment of the Lanao del Norte
24 Freshwater Aquaculture Center in the Municipality of Balo-i,
25 Province of Lanao del Norte, the funding of which shall be included
26 in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government of
27 the Municipality of Balo-i shall set aside funds from any available

1 local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the
2 operationalization of the Center.

3 SEC. 7. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act,
4 the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on
5 the breeding, propagation, and distribution of fries and fingerlings,
6 the supervision, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the Center
7 to the local government of the Municipality of Balo-i.

8 SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
9 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper
10 of general circulation.

Approved,

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