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**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )**



'22 JUL -7 P2 51

**SENATE**

S. No. 121

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by **Senator Cynthia A. Villar**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN BAYBAY CITY,  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The City of Baybay is a coastal component city in the Province of Leyte. The city has a land area of 459.34 square kilometers or 177.35 square miles which constitutes 7.25% of Leyte's total area. Its population as determined by the 2020 Census was 111,848.<sup>1</sup>

Baybay is generally an agricultural City. Fishing is one of the common means of livelihood. However, when Typhoon Odette hit the province of Leyte last December 2021, damage to the fishery sector was enormous that affected the lives of the fisherfolks.

On April 2022, while Baybay is still recovering, the fishery sector of the city encountered another tragedy when Typhoon Agaton hit, that caused the deadly landslide that took the lives of 123 Baybayanon.

Hence, this Bill seeks to help the citizen, especially the small fisherfolks, to recover and improve their livelihood by establishing a multi-species marine hatchery in Baybay City, Province of Leyte, to develop the city's aquaculture and fishery production.

The approval of this bill is urgently requested to ensure food security, not just in the City of Baybay, but also in the country.

**CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.philAtlas.com/visayas/r08/leyte/baybay.html>

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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  
2 Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of  
3 Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a multispecies marine hatchery in Baybay City,  
4 Province of Leyte.

5 SEC. 2. The BFAR-DA shall transfer the management of the multi-  
6 species marine hatchery to the local government of Baybay City within two  
7 (2) years after its construction through a memorandum of agreement. It  
8 shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government  
9 personnel on the management and operation of the hatchery.

10 SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the  
11 Department's program the establishment of the multi-species marine  
12 hatchery in Baybay City, Province of Leyte, the funding of which shall be  
13 included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government  
14 unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an  
15 amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the hatchery.

16 Sec. 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the  
18 supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the  
19 management of the multi-species marine hatchery to the local government  
20 of Baybay City.

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

23 Approved,