SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session

SENATE

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 540

Submitted by the Committee on Agriculture and Food joint with the Committee on Finance on ______.

Re: H. B. No. 7491

Recommending the approval of House Bill No. 7491 without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Cynthia A. Villar

Mr. President:

The Committee on Agriculture and Food joint with the Committee on Finance to which was referred House Bill No. 7491, introduced by Representatives Marguez and Nograles (K.A.), entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT, AND PRODUCT CENTER IN THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved without amendment.

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

LOREN B. LEGARDA

Chairperson, Committee on Finance *Chairperson,* Commit *Member,* Committee on Agriculture and Food Food *Vice Chair,* Committee

CYNTHIA A. VILLAR *Chairperson,* Committee on Agriculture and Food *Vice Chair,* Committee on Finance

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Vice Chairpersons

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO Committee on Finance

Member, Committee on Agriculture and Food



Committee on Finance

PANFILO M. LACSON Committee on Finance

PAOLO BENIGNO AQUINO IV Committee on Finance *Member*, Committee on Agriculture and Food

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GRACE POE Agriculture and Food; Finance

RICHARD J. GORDON Agriculture and Food; Finance **FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO** Agriculture and Food; Finance



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SHERWIN GATCHALIAN Finance

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AQUILINO PIMENTEL III Finance

RISA HONTIVEROS Finance

FRANCIS PANGILINAN Agriculture and Food; Finance

ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV Agriculture and Food; Finance

Ex-Officio Members

RALPH G. RECTO President Pro-tempore JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Majority Leader

FRANKLIN M. DRILON

Minority Leader

HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III *President* Senate of the Philippines CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS Second Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7491

- BY REPRESENTATIVES MARQUEZ AND NOGRALES (K.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 705
- AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT, AND PRODUCT CENTER IN THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN 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 in the Province of 2 Aklan, a provincial fisheries and aquatic resources training, 3 development, and product center, under the supervision of the 4 Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of 5 Agriculture (BFAR-DA).

6 The BFAR-DA shall collaborate with, and tap the expertise, 7 resources, and facilities of the state universities and colleges (SUCs) 8 in the province in the establishment, management, and operation of 9 the center.

SEC. 2. The provincial center shall, at a minimum, provide
onsite and online access to the following:

1 (a) Applied technology for innovative and sustainable fish 2 breeding and hatchery of high-value marine species;

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(b) Training activities and technical assistance to provide sustainable development and production support and education to 4 5 fisherfolk;

(c) Technical assistance for sustainable production and 6 7 environmentally sound post-harvest development services;

(d) Technical assistance in the establishment, operation, 8 9 enhancement, and maintenance of government-operated marine 10 sanctuaries, seaweed nurseries, seaweed processing plants, and 11 mariculture development park facilities;

12 (e) Catalog, display, and promote local fisheries and aquatic products, and provide marketing and product distribution 13 14 assistance to fisherfolk; and

15 Database of available insurance and credit assistance for (f) 16 fisherfolk, and local and international grants and scholarships for 17 fisheries and aquatic resources studies and research.

18 SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the 19 Department's programs the establishment of the provincial fisheries 20 and aquatic resources training, development, and product center, 21 the funding of which shall be included in the annual General 22 Appropriations Act. The local government units concerned shall set 23 aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed 24 appropriate for the operationalization of this center.

25 SEC. 4. The Department of Agriculture, through the BFAR, 26 shall issue rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes 27 of this Act.

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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,

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