HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9934

By Representative Ong (J.), per Committee Report No. 1105

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A MANGROVE CRAB HATCHERY IN BARANGAY GEARTAG, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), a mangrove crab hatchery in Barangay Geartag, Municipality of San Jose, Province of Northern Samar.

SEC. 2. Prior to the establishment of the mangrove crab hatchery, the BFAR-DA shall conduct a full-scale feasibility study in support of its construction to comply with the requirements of the Department of Budget and Management.

Within two (2) years after the construction of the mangrove crab hatchery, the BFAR-DA, through a memorandum of agreement, shall transfer its management to the local government of the Municipality of San Jose. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management and operation of the hatchery.

SEC. 3. The BFAR-DA shall conduct continuing research and experimentation on the breeding and production of mangrove crab species, especially as they apply to local conditions, to discover new methods and technologies that will enhance the fishing industry.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the conduct of the feasibility study and the consequent establishment of the mangrove crab hatchery in Barangay Geartag, Municipality of San Jose, Province of Northern Samar, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act. The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the hatchery.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue the rules and regulations on the supervision, operation, monitoring, and the eventual transfer of the mangrove crab hatchery to the local government of the Municipality of San Jose.

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

Approved,