

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City  
**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
HOUSE BILL No. 10395



---

**Introduced by: HON. JOSE "JUN" L. ONG**

---

**AN ACT UPGRADING THE EXISTING LAOANG MULTI-SPECIES HATCHERY (LMSH) IN LAOANG, NORTHERN SAMAR AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Since time immemorial, fisheries industry has been an important source of livelihood for Filipinos, fish being the country's second staple food next to rice. On the average, every Filipino consumes daily about 98.6 grams of fish and fish products (FNRI, 1994).

Fishery is likewise, a notable sector in the Philippine economy. For the period 1985 to 1998, the average annual contribution of fishery to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) at current prices amounted to 3.6 percent. In 1998, the gross value added (GVA) at current prices of the industry amounted to P74.1 billion, contributing 2.7 percent and 2.8 percent to the country's GDP and Gross National Product, respectively. Its share to the agriculture, fishery and forestry sector is 17.6 percent.

Northern Samar consists of 24 municipalities, it is a coastal province with 15 coastal towns, 5 island towns, and 4 interior towns. Fishing is the primary source of income for Northehanons with a total of 23, 806 fisherfolks and thus it is important for a coastal municipality like Laoang to manage its fishery in a way that allows continued environmental health and fishery output that is beneficial not only to Laoang but to neighboring municipalities thus securing food security of the population. Upgrading the Laoang Multi Species Hatchery shall provide an opportunity to further develop alternative livelihood opportunities or long-term employment programs for the people. It shall eventually be a sustainable potential strategy that would affect the economy of Laoang and could have a lasting effect on the fishery industry of Northern Samar.

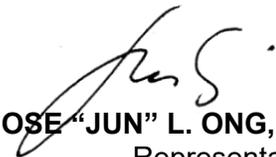
The Laoang Multi-Species Hatchery (LMSH) is located in Brgy. Aroganga, Laoang, Northern Samar. It has a total land area of (1) hectare and was launched primarily in 2006 as part of Mariculture Park, and in 2014, in order to address the need to supply fry/ fingerlings for grown out culture of priority commodities in the area, it was established as hatchery.

LMSH is a massive capital investment, and with huge potential; however, full blown operations has not been reached because trying to make LMSH hatchery continuously operational year-round has proven to be a huge challenge to the management. Firstly, funds are limited. Secondly, the lack of sufficient freshwater supply is quite frustrating which, until at present, has not yet been addressed. Thirdly, it is often visited by strong typhoons and stocks are in constant danger of being washed out and structures damaged instantaneously. It would be a huge waste not to maximize this facility that is already there.

The Laoang Multi-Specie Hatchery in Laoang, Northern Samar needs to be upgraded to develop market competitiveness and this will provide novel opportunities to the fisherfolks of Northern Samar and shall accord benefits to their families. The estimated cost for its improvement and

upgrading is at Thirty Million Pesos (PhP 30,000,000.00) and the creation of a law to cover the same and support its operation will not only benefit the people of Laoang but also its neighboring towns.

Finally, in order to sustain the food production and security in Northern, Samar and its neighboring provinces, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.



**JOSE "JUN" L. ONG, JR.**  
Representative  
Second District, Northern Samar

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City  
**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
HOUSE BILL No. 10395

---

**Introduced by: HON. JOSE "JUN" L. ONG**

---

**AN ACT UPGRADING THE EXISTING LAOANG MULTI-SPECIES HATCHERY  
(LMSH) IN LAOANG, NORTHERN SAMAR AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**Section 1.** That the Laoang Multi-Species Hatchery in Northern Samar will be upgraded and will undergo improvement, the said facility will still be under the jurisdiction of Department of Agriculture- Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR).

**Section 2.** The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department of Agriculture's programs the immediate upgrading of the Laoang Multi-Species Hatchery in Laoang, N. Samar as mandated herein. Henceforth, funds for the proposed project shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

**Section 3.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DA-BFAR shall promulgate the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations in the supervision and monitoring and the transfer or withdrawal by the BFAR to implement this Act.

**Section 4.** Separability Clause. Any provision of this act that is declared unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions can still subsist and be given effect in its entirety.

**Section 5.** Repealing Clause. all laws, ordinances, rules, regulations or parts hereof, which are inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or News Paper of general circulation.

Approved.