



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 2022

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

1st Day, Third Regular Session

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

The House of Representatives of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its First Day, Third Regular Session on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 10:05 a.m., in the House Chamber on Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Honorable Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez, Speaker of the House, presided.

A moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll and eighteen members were present; Representatives Angel A. Demapan arrived at 10:45 a.m. and Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero arrived at 10:13 a.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Before we move down to Public Comments, I would like to recognize the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Ralph N. Yumul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome everybody, the general public. Before that, I would like to – I’m sorry let me go back – so that we’re in line with the COVID safety measures and pursuant to OGA 1 CMC 9908 (b), I move that an emergency exists and that OGA notice requirements may be suspended to the extent they may be conflict with our heightened COVID-19 measures. So move.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Floor Leader. Quick recess.

The House recessed at 10:08 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 10:08 a.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Alright, we’ll rise back to session. Before we went to recess, a motion has been made by the Floor Leader and has been seconded. Any discussion? Recognize Representative Ben Camacho.

Representative Vicente C. Camacho: Thank you, Speaker. Greetings, colleagues and the viewing public, to the public who are present welcome to your House. Colleagues, I don’t know that there is anything else to defend. The articles of impeachment –

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Excuse me, Representative Camacho. The discussion is under the motion made by Floor Leader Yumul regarding the suspension of certain rules so that we’re in line with the situation with our COVID spread in the community so that we’re in line with the OGA. So, that is the discussion at the moment. Please keep your discussion to that motion. Thank you. Ready? No further discussion?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Okay. Clerk, please call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for an Emergency Session Declaration with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	absent
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	absent
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 18 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With all 18 members present voting “yes,” the motion hereby passes. We now move down to item II on our agenda and that is Public Comments. The floor is now open to receive public comments. Please state your name and the entity to represent whether it’s yourself, a private entity or public. You will be given 5 minutes to give your public comments. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individual made comments:

Mr. Joseph M. Mendiola

The Chair announced that Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero is present during this part of session.

Continuation of public comments made by the following individuals:

Ms. Florence Sablan
Mr. Fabian M. Indalecio
Mr. Pedro DLG. Pangelinan
Mr. Ambrose M. Bennett
Ms. Grace Sablan Vaiagae
Mr. Herman Manglona, Jr.
Mr. John Patrick M. Arriola
Mr. Emery Kaipat
Mr. Glenn Rabago
Mr. Jesus S. Cepeda
Mr. Nathan Elliot
Mr. Joseph M. Castro
Ms. Teresita B. Pertudo
Mr. Claudio K. Norita
Mr. Joaquin Torres
Mr. Daniel O. Quitugua
Ms. Maria S. Castro (*letter read by Representative Leila Haveia F.C. Staffler*)
Anonymous letter from Tinian (*letter read by Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan*)

There were no further comments, the Chair directed the members to item III, Adoption of Journals and recognized the Clerk.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

The Clerk announced the following journal:

Sixth Day, Second Regular Session Journal – December 20, 2021

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following House Journal:

Sixth Day, Second Regular Session Journal – December 20, 2021

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the Sixth Day, Second Regular Session Journal – December 20, 2021 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Members, we’ll take a five-minute recess. We’ll go on recess.

The House recessed at 11:39 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:57 a.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: We rise back to session. Before we went on recess, we adopted the Sixth Day, Second Regular Session Journal dated December 20, 2021. My apologies, Sarge can we get the Clerk. Quick recess again.

The House recessed at 11:58 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:58 a.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Alright back from recess again. Before we went on recess, the Clerk was not here, now she's here. Clerk, before we move forward, please note that Leader Angel Demapan is present. And before we move forward to the Introduction of Bills, I’d like to recognize the Floor Leader to suspend pertinent rules to amend the agenda. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Ralph N. Yumul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I now offer a motion to suspend Rule III, Section 6 to include bills and resolutions. Thank you. So move.

RULE III. SESSIONS AND MEETINGS.

Section 6. Notice of Sessions.

Not less than 72 hours prior to convening a Regular or Special Session, the Speaker or a majority of the members of the House, shall file a written public notice of the date, time, and place of a session with the Clerk and post the same at the executive branch administration building and the Legislature’s web site. When possible, notices under this section shall be given to at least one newspaper of general circulation. Notices shall contain an agenda of items to be considered at the session. Final disposition shall not be taken on any other matter at such session. Once filed as part of this notice, and agenda may only be changed by adding items thereto by the recorded vote of the majority of the members of the House.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: A motion has been made by the Floor Leader to amend the agenda to include a resolution and has been seconded. Any discussion? Ready. Okay. All in favor. My apologies, Clerk, please call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to suspend Rule III, Section 6 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: With all 20 members voting “yes,” the motion hereby passes and the agenda has been amended to include a resolution. Thank you, members. We now move down to item number IV, Introduction of Bills and I recognize Representative Donald Manglona.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Bills:

Representative Donald M. Manglona officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 22-91

To amend the Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 22-08) to establish a business unit and properly fund the Retirees’ Bonus; and for other purposes.

REP. DONALD M. MANGLONA of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for himself, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Richard T. Lizama, Corina L. Magofna, Edwin K. Propst, Christina M.E. Sablan, John Paul P. Sablan, Leila H.F.C. Staffler, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manglona. Due to the urgency, I’d like to act on this bill today and I’d like to place it on today’s calendar. So, I recognize the Floor Leader to suspend the pertinent rules. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Ralph N. Yumul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I now offer a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8, Referrals of Bills and Resolution to place House Bill 22-91 on today’s bill calendar. So move.

RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**Section 8. Referral of Bills and Resolutions**

(a) Bills and resolutions shall be read by title upon introduction and (except as provided in subsection (b), the Speaker shall refer such measures to an appropriate committee or to more than one committee, jointly or sequentially. The Clerk shall endorse such reference on the measure before duplication and shall enter such reference upon the Journal. In the case of error of reference, correction may be made by the House, with debate, immediately after the reading and approval of the Journal, by unanimous consent, or upon motion of either committee claiming jurisdiction or the committee to which the measure has been erroneously referred.

(b) The Speaker may place a resolution directly on the Resolution Calendar, rather than refer it to a committee, subject to appeal to the House.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, members. We now move down to House Local Bills and I recognize Representative Leila Staffler.

House Local Bills:

Representative Leila Haveia F.C. Staffler officially introduced the following bill:

H. L. B. NO. 22-29

To re-appropriate Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty-Four Dollars and Twenty cents (\$9,784.20) allotted under Saipan Local Law 19-23; One Thousand One Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$1,149.20) allotted under Saipan Local Law 19-19; and Twelve Dollars and Fifty-Five Cents (\$12.55) allotted under Saipan Local Law 20-09; and for other purposes.

REP. LEILA H.F.C. STAFFLER of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for herself, and Representative Richard T. Lizama*)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. With no further local bills and no house legislative initiatives, we now move down to item number V, which is the Introduction of Resolution and I recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

House Legislative Initiatives: None

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

House Resolutions: None

House Joint Resolutions:

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan officially introduced the following resolution:

H. J. R. No. 22-12

To strongly encourage and endorse the issuance of a new local economic impact payment to provide direct and expedited financial relief to qualified households of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the expansion of eligibility for premium pay “bonuses” for essential workers in the government and private sector.

REP. CHRISTINA M.E. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for herself*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, Sheila J. Babauta, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph A. Flores, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Richard T. Lizama, Corina L. Magofna, Donald M. Manglona, Edwin K. Propst, Christina M.E. Sablan, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Leila H.F.C. Staffler, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul)

Under discussion, the Chair recognized Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao.

Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Speak, the mover of House Joint Resolution has no objection, may I ask that we introduce as committee of the whole?

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: I have no objection to that.

Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Any objection members?

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: No objection. Okay. House Joint Resolution 22-12 is hereby introduced as a whole by the committee. Thank you. I now recognize Representative Joseph Leepan Guerrero.

Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero officially introduced the following resolution and request that the resolution be introduced as a Committee of the Whole:

H. J. R. No. 22-13

To authorize the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) to receive and administer \$15 million dollars as a sub-recipient of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund from the American Rescue Plan Act and for other purposes.

REP. JOSEPH LEEPAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, Sheila J. Babauta, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph A. Flores, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Richard T. Lizama, Corina L. Magofna, Donald M. Manglona, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Leila H.F.C. Staffler, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul)

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to just respectfully ask that we hold off on introducing a committee of the whole, I have not had time to

review this proposal and I would like for that time before my name is added to this resolution. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina Sablan. Recognize Representative Donald Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also, respectfully requesting that we can maybe send this to committee to conduct further research and gather information to present to the whole body so that we can all join in on this resolution. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manglona. So, at the request of the Chairman of Ways and Means, I will refer this House Joint Resolution 22-13 to the Committee of Ways and Means and I ask the Chairman to work on this expeditiously as much as possible. Thank you, members. Because the agenda has been amended, I now recognize a Representative John Paul Sablan under house commemorative resolution.

House Commemorative Resolutions:

Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following resolution and request that the resolution be introduced as a Committee of the Whole:

C. RES. NO. 22-6

To honor and commend the late Dennis M. Reyes for his astounding dedication and extensive service to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and to extend our sincere and heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family on his untimely passing.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, Sheila J. Babauta, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph A. Flores, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Richard T. Lizama, Corina L. Magofna, Donald M. Manglona, Edwin K. Propst, Christina M.E. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Leila H.F.C. Staffler, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative John Sablan. I was just informed by the Clerk that this will be House Commemorative Resolution 22-6 and it has been introduced as a committee as the whole. Thank you, members. We have no house concurrent resolutions. We now move down to item number VI, Messages from the Governor. Clerk.

House Concurrent Resolutions: None

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Clerk announced the following Messages from the Governor:

GOV. COMM. 22-100: (12/6/2021) Certifying and granting approval for Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia, P.E., Project Manager, at the Capital Improvement Program to receive an annual salary of \$120,000. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 22-101: (12/21/2021) Gilbert J. Birnbrich, Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor, re: *Membership and Procedures of the Special Committee Considering Impeachment Resolution*. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 22-102: (1/7/2022) Submitting a copy of Mr. Ramon S. Basa *résumé*, statement of financial interest, police clearance, and drug test receipt. [*Deadline: 2/28/2022-Note: Gov-Appt of Mr. Basa is jointly referred to the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications and the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations for disposition on 12/20/2021*].

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. Any discussions under Messages from the Governor. Ready? All right. Thank you, members. I will refer a Governor's Communication 22-102 to the Committee of PUTC and JGO. Thank you, members. We now move down to item number VII, Senate Communications. I recognize the Clerk.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following Senate Communications:

SEN. COMM. 22-65: (12/15/2021) Transmitting for House action S. J. R. NO. 22-04, entitled, "*Expressing support to implement the participation of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the small community air service programs offered by the United States Department of Transportation.*", which was adopted by the Senate on December 15, 2021. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 22-66: (12/15/2021) Transmitting for House action S. J. R. NO. 22-05, entitled, "*Approving the Governor's request to create a new program and business unit for retiree bonuses and to reprogram \$1.3M dollars from the general fund for the payment of the retirees' \$500.00 bonuses.*", which was adopted by the Senate on December 15, 2021. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 22-68: (12/21/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 22-12, entitled, "*To recognize and commend Julliah Lorraine H. Santos for her unyielding commitment to serve as a passionate entrepreneur and a proud advocate for the deaf community in the Commonwealth Northern Mariana Islands.*", which was adopted by the Senate on December 15, 2021. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 22-69: (12/21/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Commemorative Resolution No. 22-01, entitled, "*Commending the life and selfless contributions of the late Glicerio "Eli" Del Mundo Arago, Honorary Consul of the Philippines for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and to pay tribute for his many years of dedication and exceptional acts of distinguished service.*". [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 22-70: (12/28/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of S. J. R. NO. 22-02, entitled, "*A Senate Joint Resolution commending the life and selfless contributions of the late Glicerio "Eli" Del Mundo Arago, Honorary Consul of the Philippines for the*

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and to pay tribute for his many years of dedication and exceptional acts of distinguished service.” [For info]

SEN. COMM. 22-71: (12/28/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of S. J. R. NO. 22-03, entitled, “*A Senate Joint Resolution to recognize and commend Gordon Ichihara Marciano for his significant contributions and years of selfless dedication to preserve, promote, and protect the indigenous cultures of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.*” [For info]

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to accept Senate Communications 22-65 and 22-66, 22-68 to 22-71 so they may become property of the House.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to accept Senate Communications 22-65 and 22-66, 22-68 to 22-71 so they may become property of the House was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair referred the following Senate Communications accordingly:

- *Senate Communication 22-65 (S.J.R. 22-04) referred to the Committees on Federal and Foreign Affairs and Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications)*
- *Senate Communication 22-66 (S.J.R. 22-05) referred to the Committee on Ways and Means*

The Chair directed the members to item VIII, House Communications and recognized the Clerk.

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following House Communications:

HSE. COMM. 22-59: (12/21/2021) From the Speaker re: *Appointment of Special Investigating Committee on Impeachment (H. RES. NO. 22-14) Vice Speaker Attao (To serve as Chair) with the following members: Reps. Angel A. Demapan, Joseph A. Flores, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Corina L. Magofna, Donald M. Manglona, Christina M.E. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, and Leila H.F.C. Staffler . [For info]*

HSE. COMM. 22-60: (12/29/2021) From Representative Sheila J. Babauta informing the Speaker that she will be out of the Commonwealth on personal leave from December 28, 2021—January 6, 2022 and request to be excused from any and all scheduled meetings or sessions during her absence. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 22-61: (1/4/2022) From Representative Yangetmai informing the Speaker that she will be out of the office on personal leave beginning January 5, 2022—January 11, 2022 and request to be excused from any and all official functions during her absence. [For info]

There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item X, Communications from Departments & Agencies and recognized the Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

The Clerk announced the following Communications from Department & Agencies:

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 22-38: From the Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) re: *Performed observation and walkthrough of the Rota Municipal Treasury's (RMT) cash management system process (October 6 to October 8, 2021).* [For info]

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 22-39: From the Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) re: *Performed observation and walkthrough of the Tinian Municipal Treasury's (RMT) cash management system process (October 7 to October 8, 2021).* [For info]

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 22-40: (12/29/2021) From the Secretary, Department of Public Works (SDPW) re: *Updating long range CNMI Highway Master Plan; to provide feedback on specific locations for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, visit the cnmi highway masterplan by January 22, 2022.* [For info]

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: I'd like to refer department and agency communication. 22-40 to the Committee on for PUTC. Members, as you can see on our agenda, there's a hyperlink there. If you'd like to provide your feedback regarding the long range CNMI highway master plan for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Thank you, members.

There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item XI, Miscellaneous Communications and recognized the Clerk.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following Miscellaneous Communications:

MISC. COMM. 22-85: (12/21/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of RLD Resolution No. 22-4, entitled, *"To recognize and honor Dr. Francois Claassens for over 35 years of selfless service as a medical professional around the world and most especially to the people of the Commonwealth."*, which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on December 9, 2021. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 22-86: (12/21/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of RLD Resolution No. 22-5, entitled, *"To honor and commend Daisy Frances Atalig Quitugua, Principal of Sinapalo Elementary School, for over 25 years of selfless service in the field of education as we recognize October 2021 as "National Principals Month"."*, which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on December 9, 2021. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 22-87: (12/21/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of RLD Resolution No. 22-6, entitled, *"To honor and congratulate Kari Beth Van Gorp Camacho upon the*

occasion of her selection as the Teacher of the Year of Sinapalo Elementary School and to recognize her role and contributions as a teacher for over 17 years and the countless hours dedicated to help our children reach their full potential.”, which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on December 9, 2021. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 22-88: (12/21/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of RLD Resolution No. 22-7, entitled, “*to honor and commend Denise Tanya King, Principal of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior/Senior High School, for over 32 years of selfless service in the field of education as we recognize October 2021 as “National Principals Month.”*”, which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on December 9, 2021. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 22-89: (12/21/2021) Transmitting a certified copy of RLD Resolution No. 22-8, entitled, “*To amend Rule III of the Official Rules of the Rota Legislative Delegation to authorize a member to participate electronically in a meeting, public hearing, or session.*”, which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on December 9, 2021. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 22-90: (1/3/2022) From the Marianas Alliance of Non-governmental Organizations (MANGO) on the distribution of CNMI ARPA funds for Nonprofits. [For info]

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, members. I will be referring Miscellaneous Communication 22-90 to the Committee on Ways and Means. Thank you, members.

There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item XIII, Reports of Special and Conference Committees and recognized the Clerk.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

The Clerk announced the following report ready for action:

SP. C. R. NO. 22-1: From your Special Investigating Committee on Impeachment Reporting on H. RES. NO. 22-14, entitled, “*Impeaching Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, pursuant to Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth for commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty, in violation of Article III, Section 19 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth” Your Special Investigating Committee on Impeachment recommends that the full membership of the House shall decide upon* **H. RES. NO. 22-14.**

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader offered a motion to adopt the Special Committee Report 22-1 reporting on House Resolution 22-14.

The motion was seconded.

Under discussion; the Chair recognized Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao.

Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we can maybe consider a technical error just on the date, it says “January 4, 2021” it should reflect “January 4, 2022” on the committee report. Any objections from the members?

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Counsel, that can be treated as a technical right? Counsel? The date, that can be treated as a technical?

Legal Counsel Joseph Taijeron: Yes.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Okay. That's why we're asking you.

Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Counsel. Thank you, members and also Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the members of your special committee specifically the Leader Angel Demapan, Rep. Leepan Guerrero, Rep. Joe Flores, Rep. Patrick San Nicolas, Reps Tina Sablan, Corina Magofna Leila Staffler and Donald Manglona for getting organized and getting these documents out from the committee and for the full body to address the issue. So with that to our colleagues in that special committee, thank you again for your time and your effort. Thank you again, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Any further discussion? Ready? Okay. Just so the public is clear. This is just to adopt this special committee report to place it on calendar. Just so we are clear. With no further discussion, I recognize the Clerk to please call the roll for the adoption of Special Committee Report 22-1. Clerk. Okay.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of Special Conference Committee Report 22-1 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: With all 20 members voting “yes,” Special Committee Report 22-1 is hereby adopted and placed on the Resolution Calendar for today's action. Members, we will skip Resolution Calendar for now and proceed to Bill Calendar to act on House Bill 22-91. So, I now recognize the Floor Leader.

BILL CALENDAR

The Floor Leader offered a motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10.

RULE VII. COMMITTEES GENERALLY

Section 9. Committee Reports; Other documents

(a) Standing or Special Committees shall submit a written report to the Speaker within 60 days from the date the matter was referred to the committee, unless a shorter or longer time is ordered by the Speaker pursuant to a decision by the House Leadership. Subcommittees shall submit reports on matters referred to them as prescribed by the Standing Committee Chair. Standing, special and conference committees shall submit their reports in writing and provide an electronic copy to the Clerk who shall number the reports consecutively in the order received, cause such reports to be reviewed for legal sufficiency, reproduced, and furnished each member of the House at least twenty-four hours prior to the session at which it is to be considered. A committee report shall state findings of facts and conclusions based thereon together with a specific recommendation as to the manner in which the bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the committee should be disposed of by the House. A report recommending a bill or resolution for passage shall clearly state the purpose of the bill. A report on a bill or resolution shall show clearly any proposed amendments and the Clerk shall place such a bill or resolution on the appropriate calendar.

RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 9. First Reading of Bills and Resolutions

(a) When a bill or resolution is read in the House the first time, the Clerk shall report the bill by title, unless a majority orders it read in full, or by such subdivisions as the motion to read may indicate. The House shall then proceed to debate the measure, and no other amendment shall be in order until all committee amendments shown in the Committee Report are disposed of, except that such committee amendments shall themselves be subject to amendment. At the conclusion of a debate the House shall vote on passing the measure on First Reading after affording an opportunity for one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Measure passes with amendments, the Clerk shall engross such amendments and cause the measure, or any page thereof, to be reprinted as provided in Sections 4 and 6 of this Rule.

(b) If a bill passes First Reading, the Clerk shall place it on the Bill Calendar for Second Reading the next legislative day.

(c) First Reading of a resolution shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

Section 10. Second Reading of Bills

(a) When a bill is read in the House a second time, it shall be considered in the same manner as for First Reading, except that further amendments shall be in order without regard to whether or not they are proposed by the committee reporting the bill.

(b) Second Reading of a bill shall be the final reading, and upon its passage, which shall be by Call of the Roll, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader offered a motion to pass the following legislation:

H. B. NO. 22-91

A Bill for an Act to amend the Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 22-08) to establish a business unit and properly fund the Retirees’ Bonus; and for other purposes.

The motion was seconded.

Under discussion; the Chair recognized Representative Donald M. Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce a floor amendment and I believe copies were distributed to all members. So, we wanted to include the OPA fee, which is an additional \$13,000. And so, the new amount that will be reprogrammed and reappropriated would be One Million Three Hundred and Thirteen Thousand Dollars. So everywhere in the bill that states \$1,300,000 it will now reflect \$1,313,000.

Representative Donald M. Manglona offered the following floor amendment:

Floor Amendment

To: House Bill No. 22-91

Offered by: Representative Donald M. Manglona

AMENDMENTS:

1. Page 1, Line 8:

After the word “hundred” insert “thirteen thousand”

2. Page 1, Line 9:

Delete “(\$1,300,000)” and insert “(\$1,313,000)”

3. Page 2, Line 2:

After the word “hundred” insert “thirteen thousand”

4. Page 2, Line 3:

- Delete “(\$1,300,000)” and insert “(\$1,313,000)”
5. Page 4, Line 4:
After the word “hundred” insert “thirteen thousand”
6. Page 4, Line 4:
Delete “(\$1,300,000)” and insert “(\$1,313,000)”
7. Page 4, Line 20:
After the word “hundred” insert “thirteen thousand”
8. Page 4, Line 20:
Delete “(\$1,300,000)” and insert “(\$1,313,000)”
9. Schedule A and C shall be replaced in its entirety with the newly amended Schedule A and C attached to this floor amendment.

Consistent with the intent of the forgoing amendment(s), I hereby also move to allow the Legal Counsel together with the House Clerk to make further non-substantive technical amendments that are strictly necessary to effectuate the intent of this floor amendment prior to transmittal.

Date: January 11, 2022

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Donald M. Manglona

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

/s/ Legal Counsel John B. Layde

Schedule -A (GENERAL FUND)
AMENDED

Activity/Function	BU	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Judicial Branch:									
Justices & Judges	1689	8	\$1,174,687		\$11,748		\$0	\$1,186,435	
Supreme Court	1691	8	\$385,728		\$3,858		\$0	\$389,586	
Superior Court	1690	52	\$1,337,946		\$25,543		\$0	\$1,363,489	
Judiciary Administrative Office	1694	37	\$677,942		\$742,583		\$200,000	\$1,620,525	
Law Revision Commission	1692	7	\$245,091		\$83,163		\$10,000	\$338,254	
Drug Court	1695	8	\$256,897		\$174,269		\$0	\$431,166	
Mental Health Court	NEW	7	\$417,858		\$192,544		\$0	\$610,402	
Total Judicial Branch		127	\$4,496,149		\$1,233,708		\$210,000	\$5,939,857	
Legislative Branch:									
Current House Members' Salaries	1722	20	\$677,748	<u>\$834,861</u>	\$6,447	<u>\$7,956</u>	\$0	\$684,195	<u>\$842,817</u>
House Members' Allocation	1722A	45	\$0		\$1,800,000		\$0	\$1,800,000	
House Leadership Account	1754	0	\$0		\$200,000		\$0	\$200,000	
Current Senate Salaries	1762	9	\$327,525		\$3,275		\$0	\$330,800	
Senate Members' Allocation	1764A	27	\$0		\$810,000		\$0	\$810,000	
Senate Leadership Account	1764	0	\$0		\$200,000		\$0	\$200,000	
Legislative Bureau	1770	34	\$2,052,742		\$327,252		\$54,769	\$2,434,763	
CNMI Youth Congress	1593	1	\$39,213		\$8,169		\$0	\$47,382	
Total Legislative Branch		136	\$3,209,199	\$3,254,141	\$3,357,043	\$3,356,652	\$54,769	\$6,705,005	\$6,665,562
Executive Branch:									
Office of the Governor:									
Office of the Governor	1011	12	\$402,338		\$212,762		\$0	\$615,100	<u>\$473,250</u>
Governor's Discretionary Account	1021	0	\$0		\$400,000	<u>\$33,840</u>	\$0	\$400,000	<u>\$33,840</u>
Total Office of the Governor		12	\$402,338		\$625,524	\$104,261	\$0	\$1,040,400	\$506,590
Office of the Lt. Governor:									
Office of the Lt. Governor	1050	10	\$218,639		\$85,883		\$0	\$304,522	
Lt. Gov's Discretionary Account	1051	0	\$0		\$100,000		\$0	\$100,000	
Total Office of the Lt. Governor		10	\$218,639		\$185,883		\$0	\$490,522	
Other Offices of the Governor & Lt. Governor:									
Office of Management & Budget	1014	7	\$260,841		\$2,609		\$0	\$263,450	
Administrative Services	1016	22	\$404,089		\$4,042		\$0	\$408,131	
CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office	1019	17	\$231,706		\$52,922		\$0	\$284,628	
Office of Youth Affairs	1020	10	\$69,172		\$1,692		\$0	\$70,864	
Office of Planning & Development	1022	5	\$194,383		\$400,924		<u>\$50,424</u>	\$606,307	<u>\$244,807</u>
Office of Parole Board	1023	5	\$119,262		\$15,856		\$0	\$135,118	
Office of Grants Management	1043	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Public Defender	1190	8	\$364,322		\$114,492		\$0	\$478,814	
Carollian's Affairs Office	1201	8	\$110,763		\$19,664		\$0	\$130,427	
Indigenous Affairs Office	1202	5	\$104,371		\$19,316		\$0	\$123,687	
Veteran's Affairs Office	1251	6	\$202,371		\$15,154		\$0	\$217,525	
Women's Affairs Office	1260	4	\$43,780		\$439		\$0	\$44,219	
Environmental Protection Act (PL3-23)	1492	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Environmental Quality Saipan	1493	4	\$100,114		\$15,546		\$0	\$115,660	
Environmental Quality Tinian	1494	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Zoning Board	1555	6	\$173,719		\$1,738		\$0	\$175,457	
Criminal Justice Planning Agency	1584	3	\$69,172		\$40,284		\$0	\$109,456	
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	1915	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA)	1044	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Office of the First Lady (NEW)	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
CNMI COVID Call Center	1099J	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Infrastructure & Recovery Program	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
300 Temporary Workers	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Vacant Holding Account	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medicaid Reimbursements	1951	0	\$0		\$380,291		\$0	\$380,291	
Medicaid Agency	1980	13	\$249,633		\$59,318		\$0	\$308,951	
Medicaid Enterprise Systems	1981	12	\$61,620		\$447,828		\$0	\$509,448	
Total Other Offices of the Gov. & Lt. Gov.		135	\$2,759,318		\$4,992,120	\$1,241,620	\$0	\$4,051,438	\$4,000,338
Department of Commerce:									
Secretary of Commerce	1300	14	\$261,174		\$15,803		\$0	\$276,977	
Economic Development -Saipan	1310	4	\$142,697		\$3,952		\$0	\$146,649	
Statistical Research	1331	9	\$172,947		\$11,093		\$0	\$184,040	
Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco Control	1332	16	\$209,838		\$3,098		\$0	\$212,936	
Enforcement and Compliance	1333	6	\$120,504		\$8,872		\$0	\$129,376	
Workers Compensation Commission	1334	4	\$76,490		\$8,432		\$0	\$84,922	
Total Department of Commerce		53	\$983,650		\$51,250		\$0	\$1,034,900	

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Schedule -A (GENERAL FUND)
AMENDED

Activity/Function	BU	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Department of Community & Cultural Affairs:									
Secretary of CCA	1200	8	\$161,070		\$42,415		\$0	\$203,485	
Youth Services-Saipan	1220	19	\$271,734		\$20,897		\$0	\$292,631	
Child Care Licensing Program	1223	3	\$95,094		\$351		\$0	\$95,385	
Historic Preservation -Saipan	1230	8	\$106,542		\$6,115		\$0	\$112,657	
Office on Aging -Saipan	1240	9	\$35,034		\$351		\$0	\$35,385	
Council for Arts & Culture	1250	12	\$89,174		\$19,072		\$0	\$108,246	
Low Income Home Energy Assist. Prog.	1252	4	\$0		\$30,851		\$55,000	\$85,851	
Chamorro/Carolinian/Language Commission	1557	6	\$103,689		\$12,313		\$0	\$116,002	
DDC CNMI Respite SVC Prog (PL14-36)	1534	4	\$31,777		\$319		\$0	\$32,096	
Child Care Development Fund	1224	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Sports and Recreation	1270	1	\$20,483		\$21,213		\$0	\$41,696	
Total Department of Community & Cultural Affairs		74	\$854,537		\$153,898		\$55,000	\$1,063,435	
Department of Corrections:									
Corrections Commissioner	1335	103	\$2,427,992		\$25,989		\$0	\$2,453,981	
Juvenile Detention Unit	1335A	16	\$336,124		\$3,362		\$0	\$339,486	
Total Department of Corrections		119	\$2,764,116		\$29,351		\$0	\$2,793,447	
Department of Fire and Emergency Services :									
Administration	1339	12	\$418,687		\$4,188		\$0	\$422,875	
Emergency Services	1339A	100	\$2,265,391		\$22,655		\$0	\$2,288,046	
Fire Prevention & Arson Investigation	1339B	10	\$341,517		\$3,416		\$0	\$344,933	
Emergency Medical Services	1339C	7	\$239,497		\$2,396		\$0	\$241,893	
Logistical Support	1339D	5	\$181,189		\$22,012		\$0	\$203,201	
DFEMS Training Section	1339E	4	\$118,875		\$1,190		\$0	\$120,065	
DFEMS Dispatch Section	1339F	9	\$153,705		\$1,538		\$0	\$155,243	
Total Department of Fire and Emergency Services		147	\$3,718,861		\$57,395		\$0	\$3,776,256	
Department of Finance:									
Secretary of Finance	1100	7	\$153,174		\$1,533		\$0	\$154,707	
Finance and Accounting Saipan	1110	19	\$422,516		\$4,226		\$0	\$426,742	
Treasury	1120	8	\$184,704		\$1,848		\$0	\$186,552	
Revenue and Taxation- Saipan	1130	48	\$572,899		\$5,730		\$0	\$578,629	
Procurement & Supply- Saipan	1140	9	\$171,622		\$1,717		\$0	\$173,339	
Customs Services- Saipan	1150	94	\$1,910,638		\$19,107		\$0	\$1,929,745	
Electronic Data Processing	1160	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Office of Information Technology	1160	9	\$183,819		\$1,839		\$0	\$185,658	
Passport Office	1024	4	\$92,531		\$926		\$0	\$93,457	
CIQ Reimbursement (Airport/Seaport Overtime)	9040	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total Department of Finance		198	\$3,691,903		\$36,928		\$0	\$3,728,831	
Department of Labor:									
Secretary of Labor	1275	4	\$107,882		\$13,199		\$0	\$121,081	
Administrative Hearing Office	1283	3	\$81,719		\$818		\$0	\$82,537	
Employment Services	1330	10	\$216,072		\$2,162		\$0	\$218,234	
Workforce Investment Agency (WIA)	1583	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Labor Enforcement Fund	3430	5	\$105,737		\$1,058		\$0	\$106,795	
Total Department of Labor		22	\$511,410		\$17,238		\$0	\$528,648	
Department of Lands & Natural Resources:									
Secretary of DLNR	1400	6	\$142,907		\$1,431		\$0	\$144,338	
Agriculture	1410	20	\$165,051		\$5,186		\$0	\$170,237	
Fish & Wildlife Saipan	1420	14	\$146,316		\$11,523		\$0	\$157,839	
Perks & Recreation Saipan	1440	40	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Soil & Water (SPN & NI) District	1461	1	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Land Registration and Survey Saipan	1467	13	\$130,286		\$6,353		\$0	\$136,639	
Total Department of Lands and Natural Resources		94	\$584,560		\$24,495		\$0	\$609,055	
Department of Public Safety:									
DPS Commissioner	1340	3	\$104,031		\$1,041		\$0	\$105,072	
Executive Protection Services	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
War on Ice Program	1340A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Police Saipan	1350	185	\$4,097,635		\$41,509		\$0	\$4,279,144	
Police Training Academy	1360	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Administrative Division	1362	14	\$84,714		\$3,418		\$0	\$88,132	
Motor Vehicles Division	1365	11	\$207,451		\$2,076		\$0	\$209,527	
Investigation Division Saipan	1370	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Boating Safety	1390	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total Department of Public Safety		213	\$4,750,831		\$188,049		\$0	\$4,938,880	

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Schedule -A (GENERAL FUND)
AMENDED

Activity/Function	BLJ	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Department of Public Works:									
Secretary of DPW	1471	12	\$324,166		\$78,992		\$0	\$403,158	
Street Lights	1471A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Building Safety Code	1470	17	\$446,535		\$4,466		\$0	\$451,001	
Roads and Grounds Division	1484	17	\$225,748		\$12,357		\$0	\$238,105	
Technical Services Division	1490	22	\$537,190		\$5,373		\$0	\$542,563	
1485									
Solid Waste - Saipan	/2082	35	\$898,787		\$401,878		\$0	\$1,300,665	
Total Department of Public Works		103	\$2,432,426		\$503,067		\$0	\$2,935,493	
Total Executive Branch		1,180	\$23,672,589		\$2,852,436	\$2,593,415	\$55,000	\$26,880,006	\$28,321,004
First Senatorial District-Rota:									
Mayor Rota	1065	110	\$1,992,857		\$323,777		\$0	\$2,316,634	
Municipal Council Rota	1066	9	\$49,068		\$48,686		\$0	\$97,754	
Finance & Accounting Rota	1112	4	\$94,274		\$74,103		\$0	\$168,377	
Revenue & Taxation Rota	1132	3	\$48,949		\$11,599		\$0	\$60,548	
Procurement & Supply Rota	1142	2	\$28,823		\$33,142		\$0	\$61,965	
Customs Service Rota	1152	10	\$195,468		\$23,995		\$0	\$219,463	
Historic Preservation Rota	1232	3	\$42,997		\$12,905		\$0	\$55,902	
Sports & Recreation Rota	1272	9	\$109,751		\$25,235		\$0	\$134,986	
Labor Rota	1282	7	\$143,883		\$23,067		\$0	\$166,950	
Commerce Rota (Economic Development Rota)	1312	5	\$112,421		\$23,007		\$0	\$135,428	
Police Rota (DPS)	1352	57	\$1,200,033		\$208,488		\$0	\$1,408,521	
Fire & EMS-Rota	1353	23	\$593,773		\$78,816		\$0	\$672,589	
Agriculture Rota	1412	14	\$152,650		\$313,718		\$0	\$466,368	
Fish & Wildlife Rota	1422	5	\$72,219		\$33,042		\$0	\$105,261	
Parks & Recreation Rota	1442	4	\$24,898		\$33,483		\$0	\$58,381	
Soil and Water Conservation Rota	1463	1	\$0		\$3,565		\$0	\$3,565	
Land Registration & Survey-Rota	1468	3	\$20,483		\$11,930		\$0	\$32,413	
Public Works-Rota (Operations & Maintenance Rota)	1482	23	\$284,246		\$59,271		\$0	\$343,517	
Public Library-Rota	1523	2	\$0		\$2,134		\$0	\$2,134	
Contingency-Rota	New	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total First Senatorial District-Rota		294	\$5,166,793		\$1,343,964		\$0	\$6,510,757	
Second Senatorial District-Tinian & Aguilan:									
Mayor Tinian	1063	125	\$2,413,926		\$115,039		\$0	\$2,528,965	
Mayor Contingency Tinian	1067	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Municipal Council Tinian	1064	7	\$170,454		\$112,574		\$0	\$283,028	
Finance & Accounting Tinian	1111	3	\$60,909		\$43,079		\$0	\$103,988	
Revenue & Taxation Tinian	1131	4	\$101,378		\$16,274		\$0	\$117,652	
Procurement & Supply Tinian	1141	2	\$35,769		\$11,110		\$0	\$46,879	
Customs Service Tinian	1151	11	\$252,606		\$14,766		\$0	\$267,372	
Historic Preservation Tinian	1231	3	\$43,222		\$7,423		\$0	\$50,645	
Aging Tinian	1241	4	\$76,545		\$4,060		\$0	\$80,605	
Sports & Recreation Tinian	1271	5	\$103,924		\$12,643		\$0	\$116,567	
Labor Tinian	1281	7	\$144,337		\$38,124		\$0	\$182,461	
Commerce-Tinian (Economic Development Tinian)	1311	7	\$126,861		\$23,034		\$0	\$149,895	
Police Tinian (DPS)	1351	38	\$871,152		\$72,328		\$0	\$943,480	
Fire and EMS-Tinian	1351A	24	\$610,820		\$33,666		\$0	\$644,486	
Agriculture Tinian	1411	10	\$246,147		\$51,112		\$0	\$297,259	
Fish & Wildlife Tinian	1421	4	\$100,120		\$21,201		\$0	\$121,321	
Parks & Recreation Tinian	1441	3	\$62,759		\$4,999		\$0	\$67,758	
Soil & Water Conservation	1462	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Public Works Tinian (Operations & Maintenance Tinian)	1481	9	\$165,338		\$203,712		\$0	\$369,050	
Public Library Tinian	1524	3	\$88,028		\$2,847		\$0	\$90,875	
Vacant Holding Account Tinian	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Total Second Senatorial District-Tinian		269	\$5,674,295		\$787,993		\$0	\$6,462,288	
Third Senatorial District - Saipan Mayor, Northern Islands Mayor, and Saipan Municipal Council:									
Mayor Saipan	1061	81	\$1,539,548		\$200,513		\$0	\$1,740,061	
Mayor Northern Islands	1060	17	\$216,054		\$81,302		\$0	\$297,356	
Municipal Council Saipan	1062	5	\$36,785		\$9,799		\$0	\$46,584	
Mayor Saipan Contingency	New	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Mayor Northern Islands Contingency	New	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total Third Senatorial District-saipan Mayor, Northern Islands Mayor, and Saipan Municipal Council		103	\$1,792,387		\$291,616		\$0	\$2,084,003	

Schedule -A (GENERAL FUND)
AMENDED

Activity/Function	BU	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Boards and Commissions:									
Board of Civil Service Commission	1540	2	\$46,950		\$34,818		\$0	\$81,768	
Office of Personnel Management Saipan	1026	20	\$424,743		\$61,924		\$0	\$486,667	
Office of Personnel Management Tinian	1027	2	\$28,823		\$1,941		\$0	\$30,764	
Office of Personnel Management Rota	1028	2	\$42,688		\$1,427		\$0	\$44,115	
Board of Election Commission	1551	6	\$144,474		\$1,446		\$0	\$145,920	
Board of Professional Licensing	1556	3	\$98,849		\$989		\$0	\$99,838	
Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)	3540	0	\$0		\$5,050		\$0	\$5,050	
Commonwealth Casino Commission	1545	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Commonwealth Cannabis Commission	1501	3	\$43,780		\$3,284		\$0	\$47,064	
CNMI Cannabis Commission Board	1501A	0	\$0		\$24,593		\$0	\$24,593	
Political Status Commission	New	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Total Boards and Commissions		38	\$830,307		\$135,473		\$0	\$965,780	
Independent Programs:									
CNMI Scholarship Office	1033	8	\$174,840		\$1,749		\$0	\$176,589	
Substance Abuse Prevention	1508	2	\$74,425		\$82,655		\$0	\$157,080	
Public Assistance Matching	1515	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Elected Attorney General	1519	55	\$2,072,571		\$20,728		\$0	\$2,093,299	
Civil Service Conversion (P.L. 19-83)	1524B	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Settlement Account	1526	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Active Employees- DC Employer Contributions	1527	0	\$348,192		\$3,483		\$0	\$351,675	
GHLI Retirees	1528	0	\$6,500,000		\$65,001		\$0	\$6,565,001	
CNMI Government Employee Credit Union Refund	1529	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Northern Marianas Sports Association	1531	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Active EE ER Health Insurance Contributions	1533	0	\$1		\$1		\$0	\$2	
Breadfruit Program	1541	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Humanities Council	1549	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Ayuda Network	1562	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Domestic Violence	1568	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Marianas Bound-Karidat	1577	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
25% Retirees' Pension Benefits	1526D	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Micronesian Legal Services	1580	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Government Utilities	1591	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Joeten/Kiyu Public Library	1592	15	\$272,564		\$12,826		\$0	\$285,390	
General Fund Deficit Reduction	1595	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
NMIRF-Gov/Lt. Gov. Pension	1601	0	\$86,579		\$867		\$0	\$87,446	
Judgment against Government	1623	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Medicaid Reimbursement	1951	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medical Referral-Services	1979	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medical Referral-Admin	1979A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medicaid Agency	1980	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medicaid Enterprise Systems	1981	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Commonwealth Museum	3661	4	\$106,824		\$2,836		\$0	\$109,660	
La Fiesta Lease	1532	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Commonwealth Cancer Association	1536	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Workman's Compensation Insurance	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
NMPASI	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
NMTI	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Latte Academy	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Cancer Fund	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Project:Magnetic Resonance imaging /Hyperbaric Chamber	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Project: CNMI Public Cemetery	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Economic Aid to Lenders (CDA)	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Project: Mobile X-ray Container Unit	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Equitable Adjustment -Salaries	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Retirees' Bonus	NEW	0	\$0		\$0	\$1,313,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,313,000
Total Independent Programs		84	\$9,635,996		\$490,464	\$1,509,164	\$0	\$9,826,160	\$11,139,180
Other Programs: (Transfers Out to Agencies)									
CHCC Medical Referral	NEW	26	\$577,041		\$1,586,779		\$0	\$2,163,820	
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHC Subsidy)	1507	0	\$0		\$1,169,908		\$0	\$1,169,908	
Northern Marianas College (NMC)	1605	149	\$0		\$3,031,510		\$0	\$3,031,510	
NMC Board of Regents	1627	0	\$0		\$51,158		\$0	\$51,158	
Marianas Visitor's Authority	1606	41	\$526,181		\$4,499,799	\$635,724	\$0	\$6,019,944	\$1,161,905
Public School System	1607	972	\$0		\$25,077,458		\$0	\$25,077,458	
PSS Board	1624	6	\$0		\$153,131		\$0	\$153,131	
Coalition of Private Schools	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Micronesian Legal Services	1580	0	\$0		\$166,560	\$0	\$0	\$166,560	\$0
NMTI	NEW	28	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Total Other Programs		1,222	\$1,103,222		\$42,790,324	\$31,705,668	\$0	\$44,899,446	\$32,808,890
General Fund Grand Total		3,453	\$66,664,994	\$55,625,879	\$42,942,691	\$42,951,653	\$319,769	\$98,897,301	
Department of Public Lands	1950	81	\$3,270,263		\$1,080,091		\$136,668	\$4,487,022	
General Fund Grand total with DPL		3,534	\$69,935,194	\$58,896,142	\$44,022,692	\$44,031,744	\$456,437	\$103,384,323	

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Schedule - C (COMBINED GF AND ARPA)
AMENDED

FY2022 Combined Revised General Fund and American Rescue Plan

Activity/Function	BU	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Judicial Branch:									
Justices & Judges	1689	8	\$1,174,687		\$11,748		\$0	\$1,186,435	
Supreme Court	1691	8	\$479,683		\$4,798		\$0	\$484,481	
Superior Court	1690	52	\$1,816,673		\$30,330		\$0	\$1,847,003	
Judiciary Administrative Office	1694	37	\$1,759,767		\$753,401		\$200,000	\$2,713,168	
Law Revision Commission	1692	7	\$348,585		\$84,198		\$10,000	\$442,783	
Drug Court	1695	8	\$585,168		\$177,552		\$0	\$762,720	
Mental Health Court	NEW	7	\$417,858		\$192,544		\$0	\$610,402	
Total Judicial Branch		127	\$6,582,421		\$1,254,571		\$210,000	\$8,046,992	
Legislative Branch:									
Current House Members' Salaries	1722	20	\$875,714	\$834,661	\$6,347	\$7,956	\$0	\$882,660	\$882,617
House Members' Allocation	1722A	45	\$0		\$3,100,000		\$0	\$3,100,000	
House Leadership Account	1754	0	\$0		\$250,000		\$0	\$250,000	
Current Senate Salaries	1762	9	\$327,525		\$3,275		\$0	\$330,800	
Senate Members' Allocation	1764A	27	\$0		\$1,395,000		\$0	\$1,395,000	
Senate Leadership Account	1764	0	\$0		\$250,000		\$0	\$250,000	
Legislative Bureau	1770	34	\$2,634,414		\$327,252		\$54,769	\$3,016,435	
CNMI Youth Congress	1593	1	\$78,135		\$8,169		\$0	\$86,304	
Total Legislative Branch		136	\$4,914,787	\$3,874,735	\$6,342,042	\$5,341,652	\$54,769	\$9,310,599	\$8,271,156
Executive Branch:									
Office of the Governor:									
Office of the Governor	1011	15	\$1,204,087		\$420,779	\$78,938	\$0	\$1,424,866	\$1,283,025
Governor's Discretionary Account	1021	0	\$0		\$100,000	\$33,340	\$0	\$100,000	\$33,340
Total Office of the Governor		15	\$1,204,087		\$520,779	\$112,278	\$0	\$1,524,866	\$1,316,365
Office of the Lt. Governor:									
Office of the Lt. Governor	1050	14	\$781,735		\$91,514		\$0	\$873,249	
Lt. Gov's Discretionary Account	1051	0	\$0		\$100,000		\$0	\$100,000	
Total Office of the Lt. Governor		14	\$781,735		\$191,514		\$0	\$973,249	
Other Offices of the Governor & Lt. Governor:									
Office of Management & Budget	1014	10	\$451,312		\$91,185		\$0	\$542,497	
Administrative Services	1016	22	\$817,958		\$8,181		\$0	\$826,139	
CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office	1019	17	\$786,896		\$58,474		\$0	\$845,370	
Office of Youth Affairs	1020	10	\$409,396		\$5,094		\$0	\$414,490	
Office of Planning & Development	1022	5	\$337,627		\$102,356	\$51,856	\$0	\$491,989	\$389,483
Office of Parole Board	1023	5	\$225,091		\$16,914		\$0	\$242,005	
Office of Grants Management	1043	0	\$0		\$2		\$0	\$2	
Public Defender	1190	8	\$543,975		\$116,289		\$0	\$660,264	
Carolinian's Affairs Office	1201	8	\$266,586		\$21,222		\$0	\$287,808	
Indigenous Affairs Office	1202	7	\$288,840		\$21,161		\$0	\$310,001	
Veteran's Affairs Office	1251	6	\$325,508		\$16,385		\$0	\$341,893	
Women's Affairs Office	1260	5	\$247,645		\$2,478		\$0	\$250,123	
Environmental Protection Act (PL3-23)	1492	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Environmental Quality Saipan	1493	4	\$252,739		\$17,072		\$0	\$269,811	
Environmental Quality Tinian	1494	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Zoning Board	1555	12	\$509,965		\$5,100		\$0	\$515,065	
Criminal Justice Planning Agency	1584	4	\$351,780		\$43,110		\$0	\$394,890	
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	1915	0	\$70,708		\$708		\$0	\$71,416	
Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA)	1044	19	\$1,214,400		\$12,145		\$0	\$1,226,545	
Office of the First Lady (NEW)	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
CNMI COVID Call Center	16991	41	\$1,243,001		\$62,930		\$0	\$1,305,931	
Infrastructure & Recovery Program	N/A	33	\$1,928,165		\$774,762		\$0	\$2,702,927	
300 Temporary Workers	N/A	300	\$5,940,594		\$59,406		\$0	\$6,000,000	
Vacant Holding Account	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medicaid Reimbursements	1951	0	\$0		\$38,409,416		\$0	\$38,409,416	
Medicaid Agency	1980	13	\$249,633		\$69,596		\$0	\$319,229	
Medicaid Enterprise Systems	1981	12	\$61,620		\$447,828		\$0	\$509,448	
Total Other Offices of the Gov. & Lt. Gov.		541	\$16,523,439		\$40,361,816	\$40,311,316	\$0	\$66,885,285	\$56,834,755
Department of Commerce:									
Secretary of Commerce	1300	18	\$714,803		\$20,339		\$0	\$735,142	
Economic Development -Saipan	1310	7	\$196,460		\$4,490		\$0	\$200,950	
Statistical Research	1331	9	\$255,413		\$11,918		\$0	\$267,331	
Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco Control	1332	22	\$411,725		\$5,117		\$0	\$416,842	
Enforcement and Compliance	1333	6	\$179,014		\$9,457		\$0	\$188,471	
Workers Compensation Commission	1334	5	\$138,195		\$9,049		\$0	\$147,244	
Total Department of Commerce		67	\$1,895,610		\$60,370		\$0	\$1,955,980	

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Schedule - C (COMBINED GF AND ARPA)
AMENDED

FY2022 Combined Revised General Fund and American Rescue Plan

Activity/Function	BU	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Department of Community & Cultural Affairs:									
Secretary of CCA	1200	13	\$1,855,738		\$59,362		\$0	\$1,915,100	
Youth Services-Saipan	1220	25	\$526,081		\$23,440		\$0	\$549,521	
Child Care Licensing Program	1223	4	\$89,458		\$895		\$0	\$90,353	
Historic Preservation -Saipan	1230	8	\$272,435		\$7,774		\$0	\$280,209	
Office on Aging -Saipan	1240	9	\$47,260		\$473		\$0	\$47,733	
Council for Arts & Culture	1250	13	\$359,464		\$21,775		\$0	\$381,239	
Low Income Home Energy Assist. Prog.	1252	4	\$158,287		\$32,434		\$55,000	\$245,721	
Chamorro/Carolinian/Language Commission	1557	6	\$212,210		\$13,398		\$0	\$225,608	
DDC CNMI Respite SVC Prog (PL14-36)	1534	4	\$131,777		\$1,319		\$0	\$133,096	
Child Care Development Fund	1224	1	\$36,029		\$361		\$0	\$36,390	
Sports and Recreation	1270	1	\$46,404		\$21,472		\$0	\$67,876	
Total Department of Community & Cultural Affairs		88	\$3,735,143		\$182,703		\$55,000	\$3,972,846	
Department of Corrections:									
Corrections Commissioner	1335	123	\$5,323,996		\$54,929		\$0	\$5,378,925	
Juvenile Detention Unit	1335A	16	\$445,120		\$4,452		\$0	\$449,572	
Total Department of Corrections		139	\$5,769,116		\$59,381		\$0	\$5,828,497	
Department of Fire and Emergency Services :									
Administration	1339	13	\$555,001		\$5,551		\$0	\$560,552	
Emergency Services	1339A	111	\$4,153,535		\$41,536		\$0	\$4,195,071	
Fire Prevention & Arson Investigation	1339B	10	\$426,895		\$4,270		\$0	\$431,165	
Emergency Medical Services	1339C	8	\$332,051		\$3,322		\$0	\$335,373	
Logistical Support	1339D	5	\$226,486		\$22,465		\$0	\$248,951	
DFEMS Training Section	1339E	4	\$148,594		\$1,487		\$0	\$150,081	
DFEMS Dispatch Section	1339F	9	\$192,132		\$1,922		\$0	\$194,054	
Total Department of Fire and Emergency Services		160	\$6,034,694		\$80,553		\$0	\$6,115,247	
Department of Finance:									
Secretary of Finance	1100	10	\$1,579,567		\$15,797		\$0	\$1,595,364	
Finance and Accounting Saipan	1110	25	\$893,979		\$8,941		\$0	\$902,920	
Treasury	1120	11	\$406,445		\$272,124		\$0	\$678,569	
Revenue and Taxation- Saipan	1130	51	\$2,137,196		\$21,373		\$0	\$2,158,569	
Procurement & Supply- Saipan	1140	16	\$585,673		\$5,858		\$0	\$591,531	
Customs Services- Saipan	1150	122	\$3,884,226		\$38,843		\$0	\$3,923,069	
Electronic Data Processing	1160	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Office of Information Technology	1160	44	\$2,154,217		\$1,894,784		\$0	\$4,049,001	
Passport Office	1024	6	\$181,852		\$1,819		\$0	\$183,671	
CIQ Reimbursement (Airport/Seaport Overtime)	9040	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total Department of Finance		285	\$11,823,155		\$2,259,541		\$0	\$14,082,696	
Department of Labor:									
Secretary of Labor	1275	9	\$1,022,040		\$22,341		\$0	\$1,044,381	
Administrative Hearing Office	1283	3	\$118,410		\$1,185		\$0	\$119,595	
Employment Services	1330	10	\$295,694		\$2,958		\$0	\$298,652	
Workforce Investment Agency (WIA)	1583	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Labor Enforcement Fund	3430	6	\$202,680		\$2,027		\$0	\$204,707	
Total Department of Labor		28	\$1,638,824		\$28,512		\$0	\$1,667,336	
Department of Lands & Natural Resources:									
Secretary of DLNR	1400	9	\$748,014		\$269,345		\$0	\$1,017,359	
Agriculture	1410	20	\$559,991		\$9,135		\$0	\$569,126	
Fish & Wildlife Saipan	1420	14	\$379,156		\$13,851		\$0	\$393,007	
Parks & Recreation Saipan	1440	42	\$1,331,342		\$366,814		\$0	\$1,698,156	
Soil & Water (SPN & NI) District	1461	2	\$33,943		\$340		\$0	\$34,283	
Land Registration and Survey Saipan	1467	13	\$377,930		\$8,829		\$0	\$386,759	
Total Department of Lands and Natural Resources		100	\$3,430,376		\$668,314		\$0	\$4,098,690	
Department of Public Safety:									
DPS Commissioner	1340	3	\$164,201		\$1,643		\$0	\$165,844	
Executive Protection Services	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
War on Ice Program	1340A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Police Saipan	1350	216	\$6,084,360		\$201,376		\$0	\$6,285,736	
Police Training Academy	1360	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Administrative Division	1362	14	\$1,008,803		\$10,089		\$0	\$1,018,892	
Motor Vehicles Division	1365	12	\$320,514		\$3,207		\$0	\$323,721	
Investigation Division Saipan	1370	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Boating Safety	1390	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total Department of Public Safety		245	\$7,577,878		\$216,320		\$0	\$7,794,198	

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Schedule C (COMBINED GF AND ARPA)
AMENDED

FY2022 Combined Revised General Fund and American Rescue Plan

Activity/Function	BU	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Department of Public Works:									
Secretary of DPW	1471	12	\$486,490		\$80,715		\$0	\$577,205	
Street Lights	1471A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Building Safety Code	1470	17	\$856,328		\$8,564		\$0	\$864,892	
Roads and Grounds Division	1484	25	\$528,082		\$15,380		\$0	\$543,462	
Technical Services Division	1490	22	\$771,585		\$7,717		\$0	\$779,302	
1485									
Solid Waste - Saipan	/2082	36	\$1,139,146		\$404,282		\$0	\$1,543,428	
Total Department of Public Works		112	\$3,791,631		\$516,659		\$0	\$4,308,290	
Total Executive Branch		1,794	\$64,205,688		\$44,946,462	\$44,687,461	\$55,000	\$109,207,180	\$108,948,149
First Senatorial District-Rota:									
Mayor Rota	1065	139	\$2,824,203		\$332,090		\$0	\$3,156,293	
Municipal Council Rota	1066	13	\$314,065		\$51,336		\$0	\$365,401	
Finance & Accounting Rota	1112	4	\$147,067		\$74,631		\$0	\$221,698	
Revenue & Taxation Rota	1132	3	\$67,686		\$11,786		\$0	\$79,472	
Procurement & Supply Rota	1142	2	\$102,665		\$33,880		\$0	\$136,545	
Customs Service Rota	1152	11	\$254,334		\$24,584		\$0	\$278,918	
Historic Preservation Rota	1232	3	\$73,734		\$13,212		\$0	\$86,946	
Sports & Recreation Rota	1272	9	\$268,066		\$26,818		\$0	\$294,884	
Labor Rota	1282	7	\$215,172		\$23,780		\$0	\$238,952	
Commerce Rota (Economic Development Rota)	1312	7	\$190,595		\$23,789		\$0	\$214,384	
Police Rota (DPS)	1352	57	\$2,070,587		\$217,198		\$0	\$2,287,785	
Fire & EMS-Rota	1353	29	\$921,941		\$82,198		\$0	\$1,014,139	
Agriculture Rota	1412	15	\$430,081		\$316,492		\$0	\$746,573	
Fish & Wildlife Rota	1422	7	\$162,953		\$33,949		\$0	\$196,902	
Parks & Recreation Rota	1442	4	\$93,608		\$34,170		\$0	\$127,778	
Soil and Water Conservation Rota	1463	1	\$24,386		\$9,809		\$0	\$34,195	
Land Registration & Survey-Rota	1468	3	\$89,037		\$12,616		\$0	\$101,653	
Public Works-Rota (Operations & Maintenance Rota)	1482	25	\$714,020		\$63,569		\$0	\$777,589	
Public Library-Rota	1523	2	\$43,780		\$2,572		\$0	\$46,352	
Contingency-Rota	NEW	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total First Senatorial District-Rota		341	\$9,018,380		\$1,382,480		\$0	\$10,400,860	
Second Senatorial District-Tinian & Aguigan:									
Mayor Tinian	1063	133	\$4,224,151		\$133,141		\$0	\$4,357,292	
Mayor Contingency Tinian	1067	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Municipal Council Tinian	1064	9	\$261,954		\$113,489		\$0	\$375,443	
Finance & Accounting Tinian	1111	3	\$125,741		\$43,727		\$0	\$169,468	
Revenue & Taxation Tinian	1131	4	\$121,799		\$16,478		\$0	\$138,277	
Procurement & Supply Tinian	1141	2	\$55,026		\$11,303		\$0	\$66,329	
Customs Service Tinian	1151	11	\$305,647		\$15,296		\$0	\$320,943	
Historic Preservation Tinian	1231	4	\$103,322		\$8,024		\$0	\$111,346	
Aging Tinian	1241	4	\$121,612		\$4,511		\$0	\$126,123	
Sports & Recreation Tinian	1271	5	\$228,849		\$13,892		\$0	\$242,741	
Labor Tinian	1281	7	\$284,132		\$39,522		\$0	\$323,654	
Commerce-Tinian (Economic Development Tinian)	1311	7	\$178,130		\$23,547		\$0	\$201,677	
Police Tinian (DPS)	1351	47	\$1,553,390		\$79,150		\$0	\$1,632,540	
Fire and EMS-Tinian	1351A	32	\$928,917		\$36,847		\$0	\$965,764	
Agriculture Tinian	1411	14	\$511,558		\$53,766		\$0	\$565,324	
Fish & Wildlife Tinian	1421	5	\$214,612		\$22,346		\$0	\$236,958	
Parks & Recreation Tinian	1441	3	\$103,301		\$5,404		\$0	\$108,705	
Soil & Water Conservation	1462	1	\$19,998		\$201		\$0	\$20,199	
Public Works Tinian (Operations & Maintenance Tinian)	1481	12	\$389,067		\$205,949		\$0	\$595,016	
Public Library Tinian	1524	3	\$105,782		\$3,025		\$0	\$108,807	
Vacant Holding Account Tinian	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Total Second Senatorial District-Tinian		306	\$9,836,988		\$829,619		\$0	\$10,666,607	
Third Senatorial District - Saipan Mayor, Northern Islands Mayor, and Saipan Municipal Council:									
Mayor Saipan	1061	100	\$2,840,181		\$213,519		\$0	\$3,053,700	
Mayor Northern Islands	1060	25	\$497,838		\$84,120		\$0	\$581,958	
Municipal Council Saipan	1062	5	\$164,844		\$11,080		\$0	\$175,924	
Mayor Saipan Contingency	NEW	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Mayor Northern Islands Contingency	NEW	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Total Third Senatorial District - Saipan Mayor, Northern Islands Mayor, and Saipan Municipal Council		130	\$3,502,863		\$308,721		\$0	\$3,811,584	

Schedule - C (COMBINED GF AND ARPA)
AMENDED

FY2022 Combined Revised General Fund and American Rescue Plan

Activity/Function	BU	NOP	PERSONNEL	AMENDED PERSONNEL	OPERATIONS	AMENDED OPERATIONS	UTILITIES	TOTAL	AMENDED TOTAL
Boards and Commissions:									
Board of Civil Service Commission	1540	3	\$215,049		\$36,499		\$0	\$251,548	
Office of Personnel Management Saipan	1026	20	\$838,845		\$66,065		\$0	\$904,910	
Office of Personnel Management Tinian	1027	2	\$73,859		\$2,391		\$0	\$76,250	
Office of Personnel Management Rota	1028	2	\$60,775		\$1,608		\$0	\$62,383	
Board of Election Commission	1551	12	\$431,562		\$4,317		\$0	\$435,879	
Board of Professional Licensing	1556	3	\$141,341		\$1,414		\$0	\$142,755	
Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)	3540	0	\$0		\$5,050		\$0	\$5,050	
Commonwealth Casino Commission	1545	0	\$0		\$1,090		\$0	\$1,090	
Commonwealth Cannabis Commission	1501	6	\$284,570		\$5,692		\$0	\$290,262	
CNMI Cannabis Commission Board	1501A	0	\$0		\$182,320		\$0	\$182,320	
Political Status Commission	NEW	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Total Boards and Commissions		48	\$2,046,001		\$306,446		\$0	\$2,352,447	
Independent Programs:									
CNMI Scholarship Office	1033	8	\$317,049		\$4,859,539		\$0	\$5,176,588	
Substance Abuse Prevention	1508	17	\$547,945		\$87,390		\$0	\$635,335	
Public Assistance Matching	1515	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Elected Attorney General	1519	60	\$3,234,916		\$775,684		\$0	\$4,010,600	
Civil Service Conversion (P.L. 19-83)	1524B	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Settlement Account	1526	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Active Employees- DC Employer Contributions	1527	0	\$705,145		\$7,053		\$0	\$712,198	
GHU Retirees	1528	0	\$6,500,000		\$65,001		\$0	\$6,565,001	
CNMI Government Employee Credit Union Refund	1529	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Northern Marianas Sports Association	1531	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Active EE ER Health Insurance Contributions	1533	0	\$7,256,274		\$72,564		\$0	\$7,328,838	
Breadfruit Program	1541	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Humanities Council	1549	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Ayuda Network	1562	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Domestic Violence	1568	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Marianas Bound-Karidat	1577	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
25% Retirees' Pension Benefits	1526D	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Micronesian Legal Services	1580	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Government Utilities	1591	0	\$0		\$99,011		\$9,900,990	\$10,000,001	
Joeten/Kiyu Public Library	1592	18	\$793,617		\$18,037		\$0	\$811,654	
General Fund Deficit Reduction	1595	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
NMIRF Gov/Lt. Gov. Pension	1601	0	\$86,579		\$867		\$0	\$87,446	
Judgment against Government	1623	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Medicaid Reimbursement	1951	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medical Referral-Services	1979	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medical Referral-Admin	1979A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medicaid Agency	1980	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Medicaid Enterprise Systems	1981	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Commonwealth Museum	3661	6	\$249,893		\$559,767		\$0	\$809,660	
La Fiesta Lease	1532	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Commonwealth Cancer Association	1536	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Workman's Compensation Insurance	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
NMPASJ	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
NMTI	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Latte Academy	N/A	0	\$0		\$1		\$0	\$1	
Cancer Fund	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Project:Magnetic Resonance Imaging /Hyperbaric Chamber	N/A	0	\$0		\$10,000,000		\$0	\$10,000,000	
Project: CNMI Public Cemetery	N/A	0	\$0		\$2,000,000		\$0	\$2,000,000	
Economic Aid to Lenders (CDA)	N/A	0	\$0		\$5,000,000		\$0	\$5,000,000	
Project: Mobile X-ray Container Unit	N/A	0	\$0		\$3,000,000		\$0	\$3,000,000	
Equitable Adjustment -Salaries	N/A	0	\$873,233		\$8,732		\$0	\$881,965	
Retirees' Bonus					\$0	\$1,313,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,313,000
Total Independent Programs		109	\$20,564,651		\$26,553,662	\$27,866,662	\$9,900,990	\$67,019,303	\$58,332,303
Other Programs: (Transfers Out to Agencies)									
CHCC Medical Referral	NEW	32	\$1,392,411		\$14,252,365		\$0	\$15,644,776	
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHC Subsidy)	1507	0	\$0		\$10,310,515		\$0	\$10,310,515	
Northern Marianas College (NMC)	1605	149	\$0		\$8,049,685		\$0	\$8,049,685	
NMAC Board of Regents	1627	2	\$0		\$125,416		\$0	\$125,416	
Marianas Visitor's Authority	1606	41	\$1,609,170		\$4,604,660	\$646,554	\$0	\$6,859,384	\$2,255,724
Public School System	1607	972	\$0		\$25,077,458		\$0	\$25,077,458	
PSS Board	1624	6	\$0		\$153,131		\$0	\$153,131	
Coalition of Private Schools	N/A	0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Micronesian Legal Services	1580	0	\$0		\$156,550		\$0	\$156,550	\$0
NMTI	NEW	28	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	
Total Other Programs		1,230	\$3,001,581		\$69,629,680	\$58,615,124	\$0	\$62,631,261	\$61,616,705
General Fund Grand Total		4,221	\$122,672,360	\$122,633,308	\$140,553,684	\$140,592,736	\$10,220,759	\$273,446,803	
Department of Public Lands	1950	81	\$3,270,263		\$1,530,589		\$136,668	\$4,937,520	
General Fund Grand total with DPL		4,302	\$125,942,623	\$125,903,571	\$142,084,273	\$142,123,325	\$10,357,427	\$278,384,323	

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Representative Donald M. Manglona was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: House Bill 22-91 is now hereby House Bill 22-91, House Draft 1. Now we’re back to the main motion, I recognize Representative Donald Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. So in regards to this bill on December 14, 2021, Governor Torres submitted a request to the legislature to allow for reprogramming of funds for the sole purpose of funding retiree bonuses. He proposes to take funds from the Governor and Lieutenant Governor’s discretionary accounts and also from the Department of Finance. On December 15, the Senate adopted Senate Joint Resolution 22-05, which approves the Governor's request to create a new program and business unit and to reprogram \$1.3 million dollars from the general fund to pay for the retirees bonuses. At our last House session Vice Speaker had raised several concerns and these concerns are shared by the rest of the leadership. Absent a funding source and not clearly identifying which business units will be affected, we cannot allow for this reprogramming of funds from our local resources and use ARPA or any other federal resources to backfill these accounts. As we all know, payments to pension funds are not allowed under the ARPA rules and guidelines. The leadership wanted to allocate local funds from clearly identified funding sources and in doing so we proposed the following: to reappropriate funds that were line item vetoed and Section 703D1A, \$39,443 from current House member's salary. Section 704C \$50,500 that was initially allotted for the market feasibility study that was given to OPD. Micronesian Services, which was an item vetoed in the amount of \$156,550 and then we reprogrammed funds from the Office of the Governor business unit 1011 in the amount of \$66,660 and the Marianas Visitors Authority for \$858,006. In total we’ve identified \$1,300,000 for the bonuses and \$13,000 for the 1% OPA fee. Now, while ARPA is used to supplement the shortfall in our resources, we want to ensure that we do not put our government at risk of any violations to the ARPA rules. We realize and acknowledge all the hard work our retirees have put into bettering the lives of our people in the Commonwealth and we wanted to reward that by doing it in a fiscally responsible manner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manglona. Any further discussions? Recognized Vice Speaker.

Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Speaker. I just want to thank our Chairman of Ways and Means, Representative Manglona for taking the lead in addressing this issue that was brought up on the last session and was presented to the House via Senate joint resolution. We all agreed as members of the House that the Senate joint resolution was not the right tool to utilize in getting the 25% to the retirees and this bill will address that issue. Furthermore, we’ve been criticized as a House that we could have just acted on the joint resolution and proceeded forward and even saying that they met with the AG’s office and said that it was legally sufficient. Unfortunately, we got a copy of the AG’s opinion or so-called opinion that they were utilizing against the House members that the money should be by appropriation as stated under the AG’s opinion. On top of that, the AG’s opinion was reflecting the CDL law, which is the \$88 million dollars that the 21st legislature has acted on to get additional \$8 million dollars from FEMA to address the issues of the CNMI. In addition to that,

if just for the sake of argument that the joint resolution was effective even if creating a business unit, without putting a dollar figure in that business unit would not allow any reprogramming into those specific accounts to address a 25% of the retirees bonus. Therefore, this legislation 22-91, HD1 as presented by this body is the rightful avenue in getting the 25% to the retirees. And with that, I'd like to thank the Chairman of Ways and Means and our colleagues for raising that concern in the last session and we move forward and we hope for speedy action on the Senate side, so we can get the retirees 25%. Thank you again, Mr. Speaker and thank you colleagues.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Vice Speaker. Any further discussions?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: We're ready? Okay. Clerk, please call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 22-91, House Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With all 20 members voting “yes,” House Bill 22-91, HD1 hereby passes the House. All right, members. We now move back to the Resolution Calendar and I recognize the Floor Leader.

No action taken for the following legislation:

S. B. No. 22-18, SD1, HD1

A Bill for an Act to waive the Northern Marianas College tuition for a veteran with 30 percent or greater service-connected disability; and for other purposes. [See S. C. R. No. 22-28]

H. B. No. 22-7

A Bill for an Act to provide clarity relative to the crime of promoting prison contraband, or otherwise known as the Contraband Reform Act of 2021; and for other purposes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Floor Leader Ralph N. Yumul: I’m sorry Speaker short recess?

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Quick recess.

The House recessed at 12:26 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 12:26 p.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Before we went on recess, the Floor Leader had the floor. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

C. RES. NO. 22-6

A House Commemorative Resolution to honor and commend the late Dennis M. Reyes for his astounding dedication and extensive service to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and to extend our sincere and heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family on his untimely passing.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Commemorative Resolution 22-6 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

H. J. R. NO. 22-12

A House Joint Resolution to strongly encourage and endorse the issuance of a new local economic impact payment to provide direct and expedited financial relief to qualified households of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the expansion of eligibility for premium pay “bonuses” for essential workers in the government and private sector.

The motion was seconded.

Under discussion; the Chair recognized Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Colleagues, House Joint Resolution 22-12 calls for the issuance of a new local stimulus to provide relief to the many,

many struggling individuals and families across the Marianas who need it. So many people are still waiting for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, Emergency Rental Assistance, so many people remain unemployed or underemployed. So many people need this help. This joint resolution proposes \$500 per eligible adult and \$500 per dependent using income-based guidelines from previous federal stimulus packages and that these economic impact payments be in the form of direct financial assistance to eligible households, not debit cards. We believe that people should have the freedom and flexibility to decide how they wish to apply these funds to weather these difficult times. More small businesses in the local economy would be able to benefit from this stimulus this time around. This joint resolution also urges for the expansion of premium paid bonuses to frontliners in the public and private sectors who have so far been excluded from the Administration's distribution of bonuses these past few weeks. If we have learned anything from this pandemic, it is that our definition of who is essential should be broaden. There are many frontliners throughout the government and private sector who have shown up for work throughout this pandemic at great personal risk to themselves and their loved ones and their service should be recognized as well. I ask for your support colleagues and I thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina Sablan. Any further discussions? Ready members? Alright Clerk, please call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 22-12 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	absent (<i>during voting</i>)
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: With 19 members voting “yes,” House Joint Resolution 22-12 is hereby adopted. Members, before we act on House Resolution 22-14, we will go on a lunch break and when we get back, we will act on this resolution. Please be back in an hour. Thank you, members. We are now in recess.

The House recessed at 12:35 p.m.

*RECESS**The House reconvened at 1:42 p.m.*

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Before we went on recess, we adopted House Joint Resolution 22-12 and Representative Propst had to step out and if there's no objection if we can go back to House Joint Resolution 22-12 to include his vote, I'd greatly appreciate it. Any objection?

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, members. Alright. Thank you, members. So, we are now back to House Joint Resolution 22-12 and I'd like to recognize Representative Propst to get his vote. Recognize Representative Propst.

The Clerk called upon Representative Edwin K. Propst to cast his vote for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 22-12 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. Just to let the record reflect that all 20 members present has voted to adopt House Joint Resolution 22-12. Thank you, members. We'll now proceed to House Resolution 22-14 and before I recognize the Floor Leader, I'd just like to inform the members and the viewing public that we will – the Floor Leader will make the motion for the adoption of House Resolution 22-14, however; we will be going article by article. We'll be voting article by article, of course each article requiring a least two-thirds, which is the magic number is 14 for each article to stick. Are we clear? And then after all the articles we will vote for the resolution has a whole, and again, it also requires at least the two-thirds. We clear? All right, thank you. I now recognize the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

H. RES. NO. 22-14

A House Resolution impeaching Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, pursuant to Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth for commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty, in violation of Article III, Section 19 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Floor Leader. A motion has been made by the Floor Leader to adopt House Resolution 22-14. Any discussions, before we move forward to the articles? Recognize Representative Ben Camacho.

Representative Vicente C. Camacho: Thank you, Speaker. Greeting colleagues and the viewing public. To the public who are present here today, welcome to your House. Colleagues, I don't know that there's anything else to defend. The articles of impeachment are clear. These articles of impeachment would arrive through thousands of pages, two-years of investigation, the evidence are fact. What we should be defending is where we stand with the people who elected us into office. We were all elected into office individually, collectively. We have an obligation to the people. Let us reflect on our campaign promises, let us relook at our morals, our values and ethics that are a big part of why we are sitting here in the people's House. We collectively raised the right hand and we sited the Oath of Office. I, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the Covenant to establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union with the United States of America. The applicable provisions of the constitution, laws and treaties of the United States of America and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as a representative of the 22nd Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature to the best of my ability. So help me God. Colleagues, I will not convince you. I will not ask you or fault you in your decision. This, I will say, that you are supposed to be committed, you're obligated and your fiduciary duties are to listen and follow the people's mandates. We, after all are supposed to work for the people, there are no gains or losses with what we're about to do this afternoon. What we're about to do is constitutional and is law. Today the people will see, the people will hear, the people will speak and the people will judge. Let us remember our place in the House of the people and let us remember our Oath of Office. God bless us all. Thank you, Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Camacho. Any further? Recognized Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Mr. Speaker, colleagues, fellow citizens of the Commonwealth; our system of democracy is founded upon the principles of checks and balances among three separate and co-equal branches of government. Impeachment is a remedy provided in our constitution for the legislature to hold the Governor accountable for grave offenses committed against that system, against the people he serves, the people we all serve in violation of their trust. Impeachment is a remedy for abuses of office. It is the constitutional authority to effectively respond to egregious acts of official misconduct and to prevent any further harm to the public good. House Resolution 22-14 charges Governor Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres with two articles of felony commission involving theft and fraud. Two articles of corruption involving illegal first-class and business-class travel and misuse of government resources and two articles

of neglect of duty involving negligence and crisis and contempt of the legislature. This impeachment resolution arises out of more than two years of legislative investigation and especially in the last seven months through the diligent and meticulous work of the Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee. The record is voluminous. We obtained and reviewed tens of thousands of pages of government documents from multiple departments and agencies, including, but not limited to the Office of the Governor, the Department of Finance, the Department of Public Safety and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation. We conducted hours of hearings with witnesses who testified under oath. Put all these pieces together and what emerges is a pattern of waste, fraud and abuse committed by the highest executive official in the land. We are here today because the evidence shows that Governor Torres has violated his Oath of Office and the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth. Worse, he committed these acts during times of severe hardship for the people of the Marianas, when so many individuals and families were reeling from the impacts of typhoon disasters, economic crisis, government austerity and pandemic. We are here today because Governor Torres is unfit to continue in public service. His offenses against the Commonwealth warrant his impeachment and removal from office and we, the legislature, the first branch of government have a duty to hold him accountable and prevent any further harm to the people's trust. I yield at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina Sablan. I now recognize Representative Celina Babauta.

Representative Celina R. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to read into the record for the viewing public and my colleagues here in this House. The beginning and the clauses that lead up into the charges as stated in House Resolution 22-14. "Whereas, Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, titled "Impeachment," provides in relevant part that "[t]he legislature may impeach those executive officers of the Commonwealth subject to impeachment under this Constitution. The house of representatives may initiate impeachment proceedings by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members and the senate may convict after hearing by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members"; and Whereas, Article III, Section 19 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, titled "Impeachment," provides in relevant part that the governor is "subject to impeachment as provided in article II, section 8, of this Constitution for treason, commission of a felony, corruption or neglect of duty"; and Whereas, the House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 22-1 on January 11, 2021, thereby establishing the Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee ("JGO") as both a standing and investigatory committee that was authorized, by Article II, Section 14 (b) of the CNMI Constitution, "to compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses," by Title 1, Section 1301 et seq., of the Commonwealth Code, "to issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses and subpoenas duces tecum requiring the production of books, documents, and other evidence, in any matter pending before either house or a committee," and by House Rule VII, Section 3, to summon and examine witnesses, search and examine records, and provide that "everything shall be done to bring all facts pertaining to the matter before the House"; and Whereas, House Rule VII, Section 3 provides that "[e]ach committee of the House is . . . authorized to study and analyze all facts relating to the subject which would fall within its jurisdiction as indicated by the Rules, including necessary revision of existing laws, other legislation relating to such subjects, investigate the need for legislation in a particular area, and to oversee activities carried out pursuant to laws regarding such subjects, and for such purposes shall constitute an investigating committee," and Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez on June 3, 2021, referred to the JGO a memorandum "to review

and conduct any and all investigations relating to” House Communication 22-19, “Report on the Public Expenditures of Governor Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres: Violations of Law, Areas of Abuse, and Recommendations for Oversight and Reform,” and the JGO investigation pursuant to that referral brought to light further evidence of the Governor’s waste and abuse of public funds; Now, therefore, be it resolved that Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, is hereby impeached pursuant to Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for the commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty, in violation of Article III, Section 19 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the Commonwealth Senate for trial; and be it further resolved that the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall certify, and the House Clerk shall attest, to the adoption of this resolution and thereafter the House Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to the Honorable Jude U. Hofschneider, Senate President, the 22nd Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, and Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These articles of impeachment are hereby exhibited, debated and adopted by the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the name of itself and of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, against Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, in support of its impeachment against him for commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty.” I yield Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Babauta. Any further discussions before we move forward to the articles? Ready?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Alright, we now proceed to Article I, which is Commission of Felony, Theft of Utility services. I now open the floor for discussion. Recognize Representative Corina Magofna.

Representative Corina L. Magofna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In his conduct while Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana islands, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as Governor and to the best of his ability support and defend the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and in violation of his constitutional responsibility to faithfully execute the laws has willfully committed a felony against the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres utilized his position as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to commit theft of utility services in violation of title six, section 1609 of the Commonwealth Code by unjustly and without legal authorization, obtaining an excess of \$177,000 in taxpayer funded utility benefits from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation for his privately owned residences during the period, February, 2015 through August, 2021 to include exorbitant utility expenses associated with the commercial piggery that was operating on his residential property and further requested and received unjust utility benefits for at least two residencies at the same time in As Teo and in Koblerville for a period of approximately 16 months. Theft of utility services in excess of \$20,000 is punishable pursuant to title six, section 1609D1 of the Commonwealth Code by imprisonment of not more than 10 years and a fine of not more than \$10,000 or both. Even assuming arguendo that Governor Torres was authorized to receive the benefit of taxpayer paid utilities at his private estate pursuant to the Department of

Finances, interpretation of title 1 section 8222 of the Commonwealth Code, which provides for government housing for the Governor and other key elected officials. The law does not explicitly authorize the payment of utilities at set properties. Furthermore, no law nor any regulation or policy of the Department of Finance provide the taxpayer funded benefit of utilities two or more residential properties or multiple accounts at the same time for any elected official. Wherefore, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres by such conduct warrants impeachment and trial and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor or trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Magofna. I now recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the facts and charges described in article one are based upon the JGO committee's review of records that include billings and payments for multiple residential utility accounts, belonging to Governor Torres during the period, February, 2015 through August, 2021, including records showing overlapping months during which the government paid for multiple residential accounts at the same time. Documentation obtained from CUC of the meters feeding particular structures and areas on Governor Torres' residential properties, including his homes outside kitchen and piggery. Requests for reimbursement of certain billing submitted by Governor Torres to the Department of Finance, including reimbursement for a cash payment he made to see CUC totaling, approximately \$6,700. Sworn testimonies received from CUC Executive Director, Gary Camacho, Finance Director Bernie Palacios, Special Assistant for Administration Mathilda Rosario, Lieutenant Governor Arnold Palacios and the Governor's Chief of Protective Security Joey Cruz. We also reviewed CNMI laws pertaining to theft of utility services and government housing, which are referenced in this article. I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina Sablan. Any further discussion? Recognized Representative Leila Staffler.

Representative Leila Haveia F.C. Staffler: Thank you, Speaker. Colleagues, this article of impeachment just shows the kind of pattern of abuse and preferential treatment that this Governor has unjustly benefited from. He is blatantly taken advantage of his privilege, living lavishly, extending it even to family members with taxpayers footing the bill. This Governor's excessive water usage, inclusive of the piggery was tens and even thousands of gallons a month during the period that was reviewed, that doesn't include the periods that were not reviewed before that. Meanwhile, water rationing is still happening in areas around Saipan, including As Teo. Had the JGO not done this investigation, the people of the CNMI would probably have continued to pay for this part of their business operations and more. It's irrefutable that the piggery exists. The JGO continues to review documents provided to the committee about this issue, including internal water quality and NPS branch communications from BECQ dated February 11th, 2016 regarding some broken septic tanks and the resulting overflow into a local stream bed adjacent to the piggery owned by this Governor and his brother. And when he was delinquent in processing his CUC payments and even racking up late fees, he was never disconnected. Now compare that to the common citizen. Each of us here today has received calls from the citizens who have been trying to find ways to pay for their CUC bills and they're disconnected for a measly, \$124. They lose their deposit. They have to start the process all over

again. Standing in line for hours, rain or shine waiting for their turn. Yet this Governor, all he has to do is pick up the phone, pick up the phone and the problem is fixed. This Governor can delay processing of his bill, which is in the thousands and no disconnection fee and no penalties yet the taxpayers they pay the fee. And all he has to do really is hand that billing over to his secretary. Yet he follows a different process to which we all learned from his KKMP interview, where he collects money and cash from his family to pay his bill, which then he gets reimbursed for. And that just seems like an unnecessary step when he could easily just take that piece of paper, hand it to his secretary assistant and that person would process it, but no why add these other steps. It just doesn't add up. And so, with that Speaker, I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Staffler. Any further discussion? Ready. Okay. Now, I recognize the Clerk to please call the roll on Article I, Theft of Utility Service.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of Article I: Commission of Felony Theft of Utility Services under House Resolution 22-14 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	no
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	no
Representative Joseph A. Flores	abstain
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	no
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	no
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 15 members voted “yes,” 4 members voted “no,” and 1 member abstained.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 15 members voting “yes,” Article I, Theft of Utility Services is hereby adopted. We now move down to Article II, Commission of Felony Theft and I now open up the floor for discussion. I recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: In his conduct while Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as Governor and to the best of his ability to support and defend the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and in violation of his constitutional responsibility to faithfully execute the laws has willfully committed multiple felonies against the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to wit

count one, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres between April 28, 2018 to May 8, 2018, utilized his position as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to commit theft in violation of Title VI, Section 1601(a) of the Commonwealth Code by unlawfully and fraudulently taking public funds to obtain airfare, stipend, and lodging to attend a political campaign event in the state of Oregon on or about April 30th 2018. Governor Torres' trip to attend a campaign rally in Oregon, which included first-class in business class airfare for himself and his spouse, Mrs. Diann Tudela Torres as well as one day of stipend and a one-night stay in a hotel on or about April 29th 2018 to April 30th 2018, cost CNMI taxpayers approximately \$16,559.41. Count two, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres between June 22nd 2018 to June 24th 2018 utilize his position as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to commit theft in violation of Title VI, section 1601(a) of the Commonwealth Code by unlawfully and fraudulently taking public funds to obtain airfare, stipend, and lodging to attend a political campaign event in the territory of Guam on or about June 23rd 2018. Governor Torres' trip to attend a campaign rally on Guam, which included business-class airfare, one day of stipend and one night stay in a hotel on or about June 23rd 2018 to June 24th 2018 cost the taxpayers approximately \$6,036.70. I yield at this time Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina Sablan. I now recognize Representative Donald Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Count three, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres on or about September 15th 2017 in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on the island of Saipan, utilized his position as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to commit theft in violation of Title VI, Section 1601(a) of the Commonwealth Code by unlawfully taking public funds to reimburse himself for fuel in the amount of \$919.10 that he fraudulently claimed was for the benefit of a Department of Public Safety. Evidence obtained from testimony made under oath during the JGO investigatory hearings revealed that DPS vessels routinely utilized for the Governor's personal security detail are refueled at Shell gas station in Puerto Rico and there was no evidence found to support the notion that the Governor personally refueled any DPS vessels at that, or any time at a Mobile gas station. Count four, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres on or about September 15th 2017 to September 17th 2017 in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on the island of Rota utilized his position as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to commit theft in violation of Title VI, Section 1601(a) of the Commonwealth Code by unlawfully and fraudulently taken public funds to obtain reimbursement for himself for lodging expenses, totaling \$690.00. These expenses include a room under the name of Governor Torres, despite his having received a per diem to cover such expenses. A room under the name of his wife, Mrs. Diann Tudela Torres, a non-government employee, and a room under the name of police officer Adrian Mendiola, who subsequently testified under oath, that he had received a per diem for this trip and used it to pay for his own lodging. Each theft is punishable pursuant to Title VI, Section 1601(b)2 of the Commonwealth Code by imprisonment of up to five-years. Wherefore, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres by such conduct warrants impeachment and trial and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor or trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Donald Manglona. Any further discussions? Recognize Representative Tina Sablan for the second time.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the facts and charges described in Article II are based upon the JGO committee’s review of records that include: 1) The travel authorizations for the specified trips, which Governor Torres requested for himself and his spouse, Mrs. Diann Tudela Torres and related documents furnished to the committee, including amendments, travel vouchers, per diem and stipend calculations, lodging expenses, itineraries and boarding passes. 2) The travel authorizations for the protective security officers assigned to Governor Torres and Mrs. Torres for the specified trips and related documents. 3) Campaign related photographs, flyers and posts on social media related to Governor Torres’ campaign stops in Oregon and Guam while on government travel. 4) Records of fuel expenses from the Department of Public Safety. 5) Request for reimbursement submitted by Governor Torres to the Department of Finance, including receipts for fuel on Saipan and for hotel rooms on Rota; and 6) Sworn testimonies received from Lieutenant Governor Arnold Palacios, Finance Director, Bernie Palacios, Special Assistant for Administration Mathilda Rosario, Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero, Protective Security Chief Joey Cruz and police officers Jomalyn Gelacio, Flora Aguon, Adrian Mendiola, Kevin Aldan, and Emery Kaipat among the laws and policies we reviewed where the statutes pertaining to felony theft, which are referenced in this article. I yield at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Sablan. Any further discussion? Recognize Representative Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Speaker and colleagues. I just want to emphasize a couple of points and the first one that really seems strange to us on this trip that the Governor took to the island of Rota, which didn’t make sense was the fact that the first lady had a separate room from him, but then we realized this was not too unusual as this has happened and occurred on different occasions, but what did strike us that was very telling was when Sergeant Adrian Mendiola came here and testify. He swore as an officer of the law, took an oath to speak the truth. And when he was asked if he received a per diem, he said he did. He said, “yes, I received it.” And we asked him, it’s in our video in the testimony. Did you use that per diem to pay for your room? And he said “yes.” And he was asked again, and I think he got a little frustrated because he said, “yes, I just said I did pay.” And I remember that very vividly, very clearly, because right then we were surprised that here is Sergeant Adrian Mendiola admitting that he paid for his room yet somehow Governor Torres is submitting reimbursed for that. So, my question is my colleagues, is Sergeant Adrian Mendiola, somebody who is devoted to the Department of Public Safety lying? Or is the Governor lying? The Governor submitted that for reimbursement that’s his own documentation. Sergeant Adrian Mandela had stated that he had paid for it and he had said that at least twice. So, looking at these expenses, it just shows not something that happens once, maybe twice or maybe just three times. This is a pattern that we’ve seen over and over and over again. And because of time and everything else, this is actually just a snapshot of so much more that we could have put down, but it certainly gives an indication an idea of all this has transpired under Governor Ralph Torres. Thank you, Speaker and Colleagues.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Propst. I recognize Representative Patrick San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Yeah, this in regards to Congressman Propst. I just want to make clarification. Who is the authorized person to sign off with reimbursement? Sign off

with travel advance or everything that the Governor has requested? I just want to clarify that. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative San Nicolas. Recognize Rep. Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Well, of course the Secretary of Finance is one of those that sign off on it, but we also have to bear in mind that the Governor signs off on this too. It wasn't the Secretary of Finance that wanted to get this reimbursed. It started with the Governor. The Governor signs at every single thing that he turns in for reimbursement, that it is in the best interest of the Commonwealth and everything he attests to is truthful and that is the thing that we have to remember. It's easy to throw the Secretary of Finance under the bus as we've heard. It's the Secretary of Finance's fault. Or who signed it? *Atan ha* it's not the Governor. No, the Governor did sign off on it. You guys know this as well, if you need to be reimbursed for something, you also have to sign off on it. It won't just be your staff. You have to swear that this is the truth and everything and that is what we have on each and every single document that's been turned in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Propst. Recognize Representative Patrick San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Thank you, Congressman Propst. I just want to ask, does the Governor has the authority to sign off for his own request for reimbursement or travel advance requests? Does he have that authority? Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative San Nicolas. Representative Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Can the Governor sign off on everything and go ahead and reimburse himself. No, there is a process like everything else. There are different signatures, but one signature is not complete. One signature would be incomplete. It takes two to tango. It's just process like anything else. If you do submit for reimbursement, you will sign off on it and attest to it, but you do have to have somebody else that signs off on it as well. I suppose that, of course he couldn't do it by himself, but that doesn't excuse it either.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Recognize.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: So, where are those signatures? Do we have on record that the Governor signed off for his travel requests and approved by himself or the reimbursement and approved by himself? Who approve all those things before – I mean, who approves that when the Governor request for those request?

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Rep. San Nicolas. I recognize Rep. Celina Babauta.

Representative Celina R. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Representative San Nicolas. *Komu mohón mu ume'ékungok hao gi hearing nai gi JGO hearing, klaru na siempre un hungok i Direktora si Bernadita Palacios annai ilék-ña "hokkok ha che'cho niha i pao ma certify*

na guaha salape.” Sigundo i gobietno ma pu’punta i Secretary of Finance kulan mohón extension of the Governor todu este siha i cabinet. Yanggen un dia hafa na ira ya tumaya i Secretary of Finance. The Governor has the constitutional authority to sign off and approve anything financial. The Secretary of Finance is an extension of himself, because he appoints them. The Senate confirms them, these cabinet levels. So, to answer your question, yes, I do believe the constitution allows the Governor to approve any and all his own reimbursements, absent the Secretary of Finance. I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Rep. Celina. Recognize Representative San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Thank you. Madam Chair. *Ya maolek na un sangan enao ya hafa na ira ni siña i gobietno parao – hafa na klasen ira ni parao guaha aturudat-ña i gobietno na parao sign ni hafa malago ña parao sign pot para guiya. Hafa na ira?* I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Recognize Representative Celina Babauta.

Representative Celina R. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Gigon ha deklar*a by executive order *na guaha ira pat hafa na* emergency the sole authority is the Governor. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Recognize Representative San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: *Guaha* executive order *gi* resolution? I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Rep. San Nicolas. Recognize Rep. Celina.

Representative Celina R. Babauta: No. *Taya* executive order *lao guaha gi presente i gobietno* executive order in effect granting him a hundred percent authority. I move Mr. Speaker to end debate and to vote on the article.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Overruled. Last, Rep. San Nicolas and then we’re going to go for the vote.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. And with that, Clerk please call the roll for Article II, Commission of Felony; Theft.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of Article II: Commission of Felony Theft under House Resolution 22-14 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	no
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	no
Representative Joseph A. Flores	abstain

Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	no
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	no
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 15 members voted “yes,” 4 members voted “no,” 1 abstention.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 15 voting “yes, Article II is hereby adopted. We now move down to Article III, which is Corruption Unlawful First-Class Travel and the floor is open for discussion. Recognized Representative Leila Staffler.

Representative Leila Haveia F.C. Staffler: Thank you, Speaker. Article III, Corruption Unlawful First-Class and Business-Class Travel in his conduct while Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as Governor and to the best of his ability support and defend the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and in violation of his constitutional responsibility to faithfully execute the laws has willfully engaged in corruption and that he committed multiple acts against the interests of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana islands with the intent to give some advantage inconsistent with his duties of office and the rights of others to wit: Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, between January 2016 through December 2019, utilized his position as the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to cause at least 54 first-class and/or business-class airline tickets to be furnished to himself and/or his spouse, Mrs. Diann Tudela Torres, a non-government employee, in violation of Title 1, Section 7407 of the Commonwealth Code, which is punishable pursuant to Title 1, Section 7407(f) of the Commonwealth Code, by a civil penalty of \$1,000.00 per violation. Further, in requesting and approving Mrs. Torres’ travel at government expense, Governor Torres used his position in violation of Title VI, Section 3202 of the Commonwealth Code, Misconduct in Office; Title 1, Section 7705, Public Purpose Requirement; and Department of Finance regulations at Title 70, Chapter 70-20.1-101(b) of the Northern Marianas Administrative Code, which prohibit the use of public funds for non-public purposes, including travel expenditures for non-government employees. Wherefore, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, by such conduct warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor or trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Staffler. Any further discussions? Recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the facts and charges described in Article III are based upon the JGO committee’s review of records that include 1) travel authorizations showing first-class and business-class airfare that Governor Torres

requested for himself and his spouse, Mrs. Diann Tuedela Torres and related documents, furnished to the committee, including amendments, travel vouchers, itineraries per diem, and stipend calculations and boarding passes. And 2) sworn testimonies received from Lieutenant Governor Arnold Palacios, the Governor's protective Security Chief Joey Cruz, Finance Director Bernie Palacios and the Governor's Executive Assistant Frances Dela Cruz who submitted a sworn affidavit. We also reviewed CNMI laws and regulations, which are referenced in this article related to government travel misconduct in office and public purpose requirements for public funds. Mr. Speaker, I yield at this time.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina. I now recognize Representative Donald Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Colleagues, imagine how much good our government could have achieved if it did not have to fund the many trips of the governor and his wife took. Imagine creating additional jobs or being able to provide for the medical referral with additional financial support that our families can seek off island medical treatment or imagine being able to provide scholarships to our children, but instead, here are a few examples of what the Governor's trip cost the CNMI, \$16,250.00. This trip alone could have fund the annual salary of one staff at the Rota Mayor's Office. It's actually \$250.00 more than the annual salary. \$13,620.00 for another trip. This is close to what is currently owed to an employee at DPW Solid Waste, who has not received their hazardous pay since 2018 up until today. \$23,302.00 is the cost of another trip with his wife for a three-day visit to Hawaii. This is \$2,000.00 more than what a PO1 makes in CNMI, someone who protects and serves our community. The Governor has conducted many acts of corruption without fear of retribution. He has ignored the duties and responsibilities and what's astonishing is when he did so in several occasions when our people needed him. For example, following Super Typhoon Yutu's devastation when our people were without power, had to live in tents and rebuild their lives with limited resources, the Governor and his wife took approximately 16 trips on premium class, shopped and dined lavishly, and live comfortably while everyone else endured pain and suffering. Based on travel records, Governor Torres traveled often between mid November of 2018, right after super typhoon Yutu and January 2019, shortly after Super Typhoon Yutu while people were left to pick up the pieces from the typhoon. Colleagues, these are just three of many questionable trips that the Governor and where these exorbitant costs of travel alone could have gone to resolve many concerns we face today. The blame disregard on proper use of public funds, paints a very real and concerning picture of his intention and disregard to the laws of our Commonwealth and the wellbeing of our people. Monies that could have gone to pay for your relative's medical needs, to help improve infrastructure, go towards education or the retirees. These monies instead went to afford the Governor and his wife; lavish vacations. And I say vacations because many of these trip reports were not filed or are missing important documentation to justify travel. I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manglona. Further discussion? Recognize Representative Patrick San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To Chairman Manglona. Do you know what is the trip for? Were you there when the Governor took that trip? Can you justify that? I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Recognize Representative Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: I just have to turn around and ask you Representative San Nicolas. Have you reviewed the exhibits that shows the Governor's justification for these trips? And it's not just the purpose of the trip, but the intent to fly first-class when it's clearly you know, against the law here. So, if you look at all the exhibits that we've presented, I'm sure that's how you're going to base your decision today. You will see the justifications on those trips, but even just the mere fact that one trip alone, which costs \$23,000.00 for three-days in Hawaii, you know, is that something that someone with good conscience such as yourself or anyone here would even consider going on when it's going to cost the CNMI this much amount of money. And so that's just one of the many concerns, one of the many trips over 54 trips that the Governor has taken on first-class or premium-class travel, which is again, clearly against the law. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Rep. Manglona. Recognize Representative San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Do have those – thank you, Mr. Speaker. Chairman Manglona, do we have those documents that says so on what you're saying? I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Recognize Representative Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Yes, we do. And if you would like Representative San Nicolas, I believe the LA for JGO has prepared all the exhibits in regards to first-class travel.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Recognize Representative San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the JGO Committee please provide the documents?

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Okay, we will – before we – recognize Representative Corina Magofna. Proceed please.

Representative Corina L. Magofna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you for your question, Representatives San Nicolas. This is in regards to your first question. The burden is on the Governor to provide justification of his trip and for his reimbursement. So, therefore you should ask, he should have come when he was subpoenaed and answer those questions. The very questions that you are asking, so that we wouldn't be here right now asking each other those questions had he come in. So, I'm just saying the burden is on the Governor. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Corina. We will take a very short recess for our LA Mr. Nicholas to prepare the exhibit. Short recess.

The House recessed at 2:35 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Representative Donald had the floor and at the request of Representatives San Nicolas, he would like to see some of the exhibits that Rep. Donald has mentioned. So, Rep. Donald, you have the floor and you're duly recognized.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Mr. Speaker. Just one thing I wanted to point out that in addition to these travels performed during the hearing, Ms. Bernie from the Director of Finance, Ms. Bernie, along with Lieutenant Governor Palacios had advice the Governor that these first-class trips were in fact illegal, however, the Governor continued to travel first-class and prior to the recess Representative Patrick had asked for copies of these travels and after looking through all these files right in front of me, mind you, the Governor took more than 50 first-class travels, however, in totality, he had gone more than a hundred trips, but just to reference the three travel that I mentioned in my remarks, if I can get Cam to pull those up. Cam, you have the one to Alaska? Can you go down to the total cost? This is a trip that the Governor took to Alaska costing the government in airfare alone, \$16,250.00. And then the trip to Montana, this one costs the government \$23,302.00 for a five-day trip airfare alone. And then the a \$16,000 to Hawaii or sorry, \$13,000. This one cost the government \$13,377.00 to Hawaii. And again, these are three trips out of the over 50 sum trips in first-class or premium-class travel. I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manglona. Representative San Nicolas, you have the floor.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Yeah. Thank you, Chairman for this – can we just – Mr. Speaker, I recommend that we go for vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: As you wish. Any further discussion?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Ready? All right. Clerk, please call the roll for Article III, Corruption Unlawful First-Class and Business-Class Travel.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of Article III: Corruption Unlawful First-Class and Business-Class Travel under House Resolution 22-14 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	no
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	no
Representative Joseph A. Flores	abstain
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	no
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	no
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes

Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 15 members voted “yes,” 4 members voted “no,” 1 abstention.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 15 voting “yes,” Article III, Unlawful First-Class and Business-Class Travel is hereby adopted. Thank you, members. We now moved down to Article VI, which is Corruption and the subject is Misuse of Government Resources. Open for discussion. I recognize Representative Denita Yangetmai.

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai: In his conduct while Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as Governor and to the best of his ability support and defend the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, has willfully engaged in corruption, in that he committed multiple acts against the interests of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, with the intent to give some advantage inconsistent with his duties of office and the rights of others, to wit: Count 1) Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, on or about December 2015 through December 2019, utilized his position as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to unlawfully and fraudulently request and obtain reimbursements for expenditures that include lavish hostings of individuals both named and unnamed, such as one dinner with a Washington, DC lobbyist that cost taxpayers \$1,823.90, and a single breakfast that cost more than \$399.00; a car battery for Governor Torres’ personal van for which he subsequently transferred ownership; meals featuring extravagant items such as wagyu and bison tomahawk steak, king crab, prime rib, and foie gras; expensive scotch whiskey and other alcohol; a private birthday lunch that he claimed as a meeting; and various items for a non-public purpose that he claimed as office expenses, such as rifle cases, a personal stove burner, beef stroganoff and other goods for hunting or camping; wheelbarrow, chainsaw, mattocks, and other hardware supplies; coolers; and multiple electronics, including cameras, headphones, and computers, items that were not properly inventoried at the Office of the Governor nor used for public purposes. These excessive expenditures lacked sufficient justification, were made during times of natural disaster, austerity, and furloughs, and exceeded \$78,000. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Yangetmai. I now recognize Representative Richard Lizama.

Representative Richard T. Lizama: Count 2) Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, between May 27, 2017 and July 11, 2021, utilized his position as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to request and/or approve 85 boating trips using scarce Department of Public Safety resources, including personnel, vessels, vehicles, fuel, and public funds, in a manner inconsistent with public purposes. Many of these boating trips were for fishing or recreation with members of Governor Torres’ family, to the Northern Islands, Tinian, Rota, Managaha, and Guam, during times of natural disaster, austerity, furloughs, and pandemic. These acts of corruption constitute violations of Title 1, Section 8531 of the Commonwealth Code, Use of Office, Staff or Employees of Public Office; Title 1, Section 8532 of the Commonwealth Code, Restraints on Use of Public Position to Obtain Private Benefit; Title 1, Section 7705 of the Commonwealth Code, Public Purpose Requirement; and Title 6, Section 3202, Misconduct in Office. Wherefore, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, by such conduct warrants impeachment and

trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor or trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Lizama. Any further discussion. Recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the facts and charges described in Article IV are based upon the JGO committee's review of records that includes, 1) more than 60 different memoranda submitted by Governor Torres, along with receipts for tens of thousands of dollars in excessive, fraudulent, and/or non-public purpose expenses for which he sought reimbursement during the period in review from December, 2015 through December, 2019. 2) Receipts for expenses charged to 26 different credit cards found among the government governors records. 3) Also among these records at the reimbursement request, memo and receipt for a car battery, Governor Torres purchased for his personal vehicle and documents obtained from the Bureau of Motor Vehicle, showing the vehicle registered in Governor Torres' name and the sale of that vehicle to a private citizen soon after the new battery was purchased. 4) A detailed and verified inventory provided by the Special Assistant for Administration of all electronics, furniture, coolers, and other office related items, procured for the Office of the Governor, including its subdivisions. 5) Boat logs, vessel usage reports, personnel overtime records, fuel invoices and receipts and correspondence and other documents related to Boating Safety's federal grant obtained from the Department of Public Safety. 6) A sworn affidavit from Ms. Erin Camacho attesting to the private completely non-official birthday lunch she had with her father, a lunch that Governor Torres was not involved in at all and yet claim for reimbursement as an official government meeting. 7) Sworn testimony is received from Lieutenant governor Arnold Palacios, Special Assistant for Administration Matilda Rosario, Finance Director, Bernie Palacios, former Guam Senator Will Castro, DPS Commissioner, Robert Guerrero, the Governor's Chief of Protective Security Joey Cruz, boating safety officers, Kevin Aldan, Adrian Mendiola and Emery Kaipat, Bureau of Motor Vehicle Director Juana Leon Guerrero, and the Governor's Executive Assistant Frances Dela Cruz, who submitted a sworn affidavit. We also reviewed CNMI laws pertaining to the use of government office and staff for personal or political purposes, the use of public position for private benefit, the public purpose requirement for public resources and misconduct in office, which are referenced in this article. I yield at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina Sablan. Floor is still open for discussions. Recognize Representative Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These many, many purchases, these questionable purchases, I think one of them or there's several that stand out, but I just would like for the record, if we could pull out the car receipt for the battery. Can you zoom in on the Carquest a little bit so that we can see a little bit better? All right. So that is a brand new battery. And what date was that purchased on? Is it say right. Okay. January 28, 2019. Right. And then how much was the total on that? That was for \$122.10 cents for a brand new battery. And if you scroll down a little bit that there's a license plate there that's ADG 282. Correct. Can you pull out the corresponding registration for this license plate? Is that the registration? Does it say who the owner is? Can you zoom on that? It says Torres, Ralph Deleon Guerrero. Okay. Alright, I just want to make sure. And do we have the license plate for that registration and how we figured it out? So, MPV model right there. Right? And there's a license plate ADG 282 corresponding with

that. That's a 2004 Mazda MPV van, right? White color, personally owned, personally owned and that was the registration. And then when was it sold? What date or transferred? That was a registration. Okay. So that's on the 10. And then, it was transferred to another person from Carla, to that's when he got it, he bought it on the 10th of January. I think it might be further down. And then there you go. So, the vehicle Bill of Sale is to Brian Romolar, one of the Governor's, I guess, good friends or very, very strong supporter that was the date okay, transfer of the van Bill of Sale. That one, right. And what's the date on that? Can we zoom in? Yeah, what's the date? I'm sorry, January 28, your eyes are better than mine. So it was, the van was sold on the 29th. Sorry, the 28th. Is that correct? Is that correct? Okay. So just so we get this straight, a brand new battery was purchased at Carquest for the Governor's van that he personally owns. Correct. And then the van was transferred or sold to another person from him on the same day that it was, the battery was purchased. Is that, is that correct? That's what it looks like. So, colleagues, this is just one of many things that stood out to us that is just curious that how does this, how does this serve a public purpose? If, we were to tell the public that it is okay to buy a brand new battery for your personal van and then turn around and sell it. If you're telling me that this is okay, that we allow this, that this is quickly acceptable, then I want to know, because what is to stop myself or any of you for buying new tires for your car? I'm just asking. I know for a fact that if I were to do that, I'd get rejected. I don't think I would even do that in the first place, but is it allowable? How do we justify this as a public purpose? And how is this not a personal expense when you own a vehicle, when you do the upkeep of the vehicle? It's not like the Governor is, you know, dependent on driving that van himself. Let's not forget that the Governor has a PSD and he is driven around everywhere else. So, why would he get a brand new battery for a van that he owns, turns around and sells it or gives away? I don't know. There was no real amount on the selling point of it. And how did that battery and the van transfer, whatever benefit the taxpayers. I just think that's just one of several items that is questionable and we could, honestly to go through several more if you want, but I just want it to notice that one, because that one really stuck out, out of the many, many, many questionable purchases. I yield at this time. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Propst. Floor is still open for discussion.

Several members voiced "ready."

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Ready? Alright clerk, please call the roll for Article IV, Corruption Misuse of Government Resources.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of Article IV: Corruption Misuse of Government Resources under House Resolution 22-14 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	no
Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	no
Representative Joseph A. Flores	abstain
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	no
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes

Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	no
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 15 members voted “yes,” 4 members voted “no,” and 1 abstention.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 15 voting “yes,” Article IV, under Corruption Misuse of Government Resources is hereby adopted. Thank you, members. We now move down to Article V, Neglect of Duty Negligence During Crisis. Floor is open for discussion. Recognize Representative Ben Camacho.

Representative Vicente C. Camacho: Thank you, Speaker. While Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as Governor, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has willfully neglected the duties of his office, to wit: Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, between December 2015 and July 2021, grossly neglected his duties and responsibilities as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by taking over 120 trips by plane for himself and/or his spouse, Mrs. Diann Tudela Torres, a non-government employee, and approximately 85 trips by boat. This dereliction of duty occurred during times of natural disaster, austerity, furloughs, and pandemic. In one year following Super Typhoon Yutu, Governor Torres and Mrs. Torres took at least 16 government-funded trips, during which time Governor Torres neglected his duties of office while dining and shopping extravagantly at taxpayer expense. Commonwealth residents meanwhile suffered without adequate shelter, power, or running water and struggled to rebuild their lives and homes. In the summer of 2020, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, after the local economy ground to a halt and thousands of residents in the public and private sectors lost work, Governor Torres further neglected his duties when he embarked on a three-week fishing and hunting promotional expedition to the Northern Islands with his family and friends. Instead of addressing the ongoing public health emergency, Governor Torres negligently directed various government agencies to procure charter boats, meals, fuel, and other supplies, and utilized police officers and other government personnel, and government vessels, vehicles, generators, and other equipment and materials. In total, these numerous and excessive trips by air and by sea, directed and/or authorized by Governor Torres over nearly six years, cost CNMI taxpayers over \$550,000.00. This amount includes airfare, lodging, ground transportation, fuel, per diem and stipends, and other supplies, but does not encompass all the travel-related expenses of protective security officers and other government employees who accompanied Governor Torres and his family members on these trips. This amount also does not include the cost of Governor Torres’ negligent conduct to the safety and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth in times of crisis. Wherefore, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, by such neglect of duty warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor or trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. I yield, Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Camacho. Any further? Recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the facts and charges described in Article V are based upon the JGO committee’s review of records that include 1) travel authorizations for more than 120 trips that Governor Torres requested for himself and his spouse, Mrs. Diann Tudela Torres and related documents, furnished to the committee, including amendments, travel vouchers, itineraries per diem, and stipend calculations, lodging, ground transportation, fuel and boarding passes. 2) Boat logs and vessel usage reports documenting approximately 85 boating trips taken by Governor Torres and/or his spouse using DPS vessels, personnel fuel and other supplies. 3) Reimbursement request memos and accompanying receipts for expenses that Governor occurred for meals, alcohol and shopping while on government travel. And 4) Sworn testimonies received from Lieutenant Governor Arnold Palacios, Finance Director Bernie Palacios, DPS Commissioner Robert Guerrero, Protective Security Officers Joey Cruz, Flora Aguon and Jomalyn Gelacio, Boating Safety Officer's Kevin Aldan, Adrian Mendiola, and Emery Kaipat, and the Governor's Executive Assistant Frances Dela Cruz, who submitted a sworn affidavit. We also reviewed CNMI laws pertaining to the use of government, office and staff for personal or political purposes, the use of public position for private benefit, the public purpose requirements for public resources and misconduct in office, which are all referenced in this article. I yield at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina. Recognize Representative Sheila Babauta.

Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Colleagues, the viewing public, Article V, clearly displays the Governor's negligence of duty during times of crisis. For a span of six years while our community did not have proper shelter, power, or running water and struggled to rebuild their lives and homes while businesses closed down, jobs were lost and many worried about how they were going to provide for their families. While schools closed, homes struggled to adjust and families applied for PUA. While the collective mental health of our CNMI was unstable, anxious, and in shock, the Governor and his wife were dining and shopping extravagantly at taxpayer expense. In the span of almost six years, he took 120 trips by plane and 85 trips by boat, all funded by our government, costing over \$550,000. And he chose to direct various agencies, use precious resources to coordinate a three-week hunting and fishing promotional expedition when tourism was severely impacted and flights were not even active during this time of natural disasters, austerity, furloughs, and a pandemic, we needed a leader. Instead, the chaos was further intensified by sole source contracts, vendor favoritism, shuffling of cabinet members, silencing first responders, threatening of job transfers, FBI raids, IPI Best Sunshine Casino drama, and allowing unprofessional and unethical behavior to happen under his watch. He was complicit. He chose to be involved or look the other way. This is not the kind of leadership we need. This is not the kind of leadership we deserve, especially during a time when climate change , militarization and climate colonialism are major existential issues that deserve attention. This blanket of fear that the Governor continues to perpetuate and our government and communities cannot be seen, but it is felt and it is felt by many. The Governor's seat is a foundational and trusted position in our government. It must be solid and authentic. When a block in our foundation is cracked beyond repair it must be replaced because it threatens the very structure and safety of our home, the CNMI. And that's really what this is about. It's about effective governance. It's about leadership. It's about trust and making hard decisions in order to see the change we want in the CNMI. And today we are making a clear statement that we will

work for that change. We want that blanket of fear to dissolve. We want to truly make our CNMI a better place for everyone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'm ready to vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you., Representative Sheila. Floor is still open for discussion.

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Ready? Alright. Clerk, please call the roll on Article V, Neglect of Duty Negligence During Crisis.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of Article V: Neglect of Duty Negligence During Crisis under House Resolution 22-14 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	no
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	no
Representative Joseph A. Flores	abstain
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	no
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	no
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 15 members voted “yes,” 4 members voted “no,” and 1 abstention.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 15 voting “yes,” Article V, Neglect of Duty Negligence During Crisis is hereby adopted. Thank you, members. We now move down to Article VI and the floor is open for discussion. Recognize Representative Sheila Babauta.

Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as Governor and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has willfully neglected the duties of his office, to wit: Governor Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, having a duty to honor and respect the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution, the laws of the Commonwealth, and the applicable Rules of the Twenty Second House of Representatives, breached said duty by failing to appear as commanded on December 10, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. by a legislative subpoena duly served upon him and constitutionally authorized by Article II Section

14 (b) of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution, and Title 1, Sections 1301 et seq. of the Commonwealth Code, before the House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. Said failure to appear was adjudged to be in contempt of the Legislature pursuant to Title 1, Section 1306 (b) of the Commonwealth Code by a unanimous vote of the House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations on December 14, 2021, after Governor Torres failed to cure his contempt by refusing an invitation to testify under oath voluntarily pursuant to Title 1, Section 1309 of the Commonwealth Code and cooperate with the investigatory committee's attempt to obtain information by lawful means. The House Speaker certified the contempt charge to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General on December 15, 2021 for prosecution. Wherefore, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, by such neglect of duty warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor or trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Representative Sheila. Floor is still open for discussion. Recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the facts and charges described in Article VI are based on the JGO committee's review of records that include 1) The subpoena that the committee issued to Governor Torres commanding him to appear before the committee on December 10, 2021. 2) The Governor's failure to appear in violation of that subpoena on December 10, 2021. 3) The Governor's failure to appear voluntarily on December 14, 2021 despite the offer from the committee to allow him to cure his contempt if he did so. 4) The unanimous vote of the JGO committee to hold Governor Torres and contempt of the legislature on December 14, 2021, and the JGO committee chairs report of contempt to the Speaker that same day and 5) the Speaker certification of the contempt charge to the Office of the Attorney General for prosecution December 15, 2021. We also reviewed the applicable constitutional provisions laws of the Commonwealth and rules of this 22nd House of Representatives that authorized the committee to conduct investigations, issue subpoenas, compel the cooperation of government employees and hold individuals in contempt for non-compliance. Mr. Speaker, I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Representative Tina Sablan. Floor is still open for discussion. Recognize Representative Corina Magofna.

Representative Corina L. Magofna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the people of the CNMI, both at home and abroad, we are here today to take a very important action on the people's mandate, your mandate to impeach Governor Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres pursuant to Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth for commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty in violation of Article III, Section 19 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth. It's really quite simple. The Governor took a constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as the people's Governor and to support and defend the very constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana islands, for which he is now being charged for neglect of duty and contempt of the legislature, simply because he failed to comply and he chose to disregard the law of the land as if he was above the law. This Governor claims unfairness, but he was given every opportunity to avail under the protection of our laws to be heard, defend, and to state his position in the matter, yet he chose to defy the legislative subpoena and doesn't show up on the day he was scheduled to appear in the House of chamber to answer questions and to clear

his name once and for all. To add insult to injury, he filed a lawsuit against the JGO committee because they found him in contempt for no show. With several attorneys at his disposal, one specifically hired from the US mainland costing taxpayers, hundreds of thousands of dollars. We have yet to obtain answers and explanations to many of the questions regarding the legitimacy of his expenditures and reimbursements. Yet concerns of illegality are bountiful. Selfishly as a person who holds the highest seat in public. He has broken his oath, his sincerity to serve the public and his promise to place people's interests before oneself. The very laws that gave him the extravagant legal defense one could buy are the very laws he had broken. His cries of witch hunt, political posturing, charade circus, and whatever stuff he was throwing out there, only defense the ear of Liberty, justice and marks the rule of law. The boastfulness of his propaganda and the political fear mongering only further erodes the fabric of his stature and title. Against all odds, despite political influences and access to countless publicly paid attorneys, there were also those courageous government employees, including the Lieutenant Governor who gave damaging testimonies, again, this tyrant of a Governor and for that, we applaud each and every one of them and we thank them for their bravery and for doing the right thing. It is undeniable and brings much sadness that the ones who suffer most, are you, the people, you, our brothers, our sisters, our neighbors, our family members, and especially our loved ones. The pain instilled, I hope will not be inherited by future generations to come. Today marks the beginning, when the people take back what is rightfully theirs. The power they had, but temporary lost. The journey ahead is not easy, but like any deep cut wound, we too shall heal with time. To my colleagues across the aisle, I commend your decency to look beyond party lines for the greater good of our people and take the necessary first step for a better tomorrow, a better CNMI. As we occupy this seat of honor, let us remind ourselves that it is not ours to do as we please. The seed bestowed upon us, belongs to the people. It is this allegiance to the public as a whole, that our sitting Governor has truly forgotten. To members of the Senate, our colleagues, we plead that you laid down your political aspirations and party loyalty. Put aside all differences, baseless, propaganda, and respect the duties as public servant and strict adherence to the rule of law. We must always be mindful each and every day that we must lead with integrity, humility, and the love for our people. The vicious cycle of abuse, corruption, and people suffering must end. *Na para pot fabót, fan gai ma'ase ni i taotao ta sa mampos man masa'sapet. Ti man mireni este na klasin trata mento yan disrespetu. Espesiatmente ginen mismo i gobietno ta. Taya probecho yan benefisiu para i taotao ta.* So, to Governor Torres, you hold the most prestigious seat in public office ever given by the people. Yet you are now charged for abusing their trust. You swore an oath to faithfully discharge your duties and defend the laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana islands and its constitution yet you managed to bastardize and taint the sacred pledge. Governor, please honor your promise and abide by the rule of law. Resign from your post and let the people keep the sanctity of this establish. *Si Yu'us Ma'ase, ghillisow* respectfully the people's representative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Corina. Floor is still open for discussion.

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Ready. Okay. Clerk, please call the roll for Article VI, Neglect of Duty Contempt of the Legislature.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of Article VI: Neglect of Duty Contempt of the Legislature under House Resolution 22-14 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	no
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	no
Representative Joseph A. Flores	abstain
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	no
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	no
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 15 members voted “yes,” 4 members voted “no,” and 1 abstention.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 15 voting “yes,” Article VI, Neglect of Duty Contempt of the Legislature is hereby adopted. Before, we go back to the main motion. I'd like to recognize Representative Celina Babauta.

Representative Celina R. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Demand for Impeachment. Wherefore, Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, by commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty, having undermined the integrity of his office and brought disrepute on the Governorship, having betrayed the trust of those he swore to serve, having acted in a manner subversive of the rule of law and justice, to the manifest injury of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, legally warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor or trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Celina Babauta. We are now back to the main motion, any discussion?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Ready. Again, the magic number is two-thirds, which is 14. Clerk, please call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the adoption of House Resolution 22-14 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	no
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Celina R. Babauta	yes
Representative Sheila Therese J. Babauta	yes

Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	no
Representative Joseph A. Flores	abstain
Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero	no
Representative Richard T. Lizama	yes
Representative Corina L. Magofna	yes
Representative Donald M. Manglona	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	no
Representative Leila Haveia F. C. Staffler	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 15 members voted “yes,” 4 members voted “no,” and 1 abstention.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 15 members voting “yes,” House Resolution 22-14 is hereby adopted. Thank you, members. We now move down to item XVII, Miscellaneous Business. Floor is open. I recognize Representative Celina Babauta.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Representative Celina R. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I request for a short recess please?

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Short recess.

The House recessed at 3:41 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 3:57 p.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: We’ll rise back to session. Before we went on recess, we were under Miscellaneous and Representative Celina Babauta had the floor. So, Rep. Celina Babauta you are recognized.

Representative Celina R. Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues of the 22nd House of Representatives. As you all know, last week, Friday, January 7, 2022 the Governor's office issued a press release that basically indicated that I, as Chairwoman of the House of Representatives Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations (JGO) published untrue statements that amounted to distortion and misrepresentations of statements made by Governor Torres. In that publication, the Governor's in-house Legal Counsel, Mr. Gilbert Birnbrich essentially implied that I had placed a partisan spin on matters related to the dispute relating to the Governor's investigation. *Pa’go matto i ora para bai hu na klaruyi i taotao siha ya bai hu pupblika hafa ma susedi kosa ki taya hu duda ya hu klaru yan tunas i storia.* Today, I’d like to set the record straight. *Antes di bai hu tutuhon ya hu bai na tungo hamyo todun yan i pupbliku na esta hu notisia i Clerk gi san hilo’ na guma na kotte todun i abugado siha ni mu represe’senta i*

gobietno tat komu si Señor Gilbert Birnbrich ginen i ofisinan i gobietno yan i pumalo na abugado siha ni man sa'saoniao mu representa i gobietno. Ginen i Banes, Horey, Berman yan Miller na grupon abugado na para bai hu diskuti i kattan niha annai i gobietno man gagao parao ha le' yan i hues Alexandro Castro yan in eppe siha. At this time, I would like to publicly read into the record, the inappropriate ex parte emails that were sent and received by the Governor's counsel, Mr. Richard Miller to the CNMI Supreme Court. On December 29th at 4:25 p.m. Mr. Miller emailed the Deputy Clerk of the Supreme Court, Ms. Nora Borja and in that mid email, Mr. Miller states, this is a direct quote from his email. "My office represents Governor Torres in this matter. On December 16th, Chief Justice Castro appointed former judge Timothy Bellis to preside pro tempore in the Superior Court and allow the parties 10-days to submit written objections to the Clerk of the Superior Court. By our calculation under the rules for computation of time, the 10th day will be tomorrow, December 30th. Governor Torres is requesting a chambers conference with Chief Justice regarding Judge Bellis' appointment sometime tomorrow prior to the expiration of the deadline. If this is inconvenient for the Chief Justice, we request an extension of the deadline for a further 10-days." Signed Richard Miller. From this email, there can be no doubt, *taya dinida* that Governor Torres wanted a face-to-face meeting with Chief Justice to discuss the selection of Judge Bellis, who would preside over his lawsuit against the JGO. It's right here in black and white. Governor Torres is requesting a chambers conference with Chief Justice regarding Judge Bellis' his appointment sometime tomorrow, prior to the expiration of the deadline. For all the experiences between Mr. Birnbrich and Mr. Miller practicing law, this attempt to meet with Chief Justice in chambers off the record is inappropriate and highly unethical. It undermines the integrity of the legal process that the Governor initiated when he filed the lawsuit against the JGO. If it was an actual attempt to meet ex parte, it is sanctionable conduct and Mr. Miller should face serious consequences to include possible disbarment if it is determined that his ex parte email communication, which was clearly and beyond dispute professional misconduct was intended to set up an ex-parte meeting in chambers with Chief Justice Castro. The Chief Justice to all his honor be due, properly declined, which was clearly communicated in the following reply from the Deputy Clerk in her response the following morning on December 30th at 8:35 AM. And she states, "Dear Mr. Miller, the Chief Justice has seen your message and he will not meet with your client concerning this matter. The order is clear. Any concerns about the employment of Timothy H. Bellis as judge pro tempore may be made in writing and sent to the Clerk of the superior court. It appears that this email was not served on the opposing side. Please serve the opposing party, the email, if you have not already done." Despite instructions from the court to send the emails to the opposing party at 8:35 that morning on December 30th, Mr. Miller did not send the emails to the JGO until 4:15 p.m. on the same day. It took Mr. Miller seven-hours and forty-,minutes to comply with the instructions from the Supreme Court. Moreover, during this seven-hour time period between receiving directions from the court and his sharing of the correspondence with the JGO, Mr. Miller drafted and sent to Superior Court Clerk Patrick Diaz, which was received at 3:45 p.m. on December 30th. The circumstances of this letter appear to be very suspicious and it is reasonable to question whether this letter was drafted during this seven-hour span to cover up the unethical and irresponsible nature of the ex parte email communication and the requested ex parte meeting. Accordingly, I feel that the NMI bar associations should also investigate, whether Mr. Miller should be sanctioned for his professional misconduct. This behavior is indicative of the backdoor and underhanded tactics by Governor Torres and his charlatans that we have seen in the past and are trying to avoid. I briefly referenced the unethical behavior and communication from the Governor's office in a public statement on the bi-partisan special investigating committee on impeachment released January 5th. Mr. Birnbrich responded that the Governor did not seek a

personal meeting with Chief Justice. His counsel requested a conference to seek clarification of the Chief Justice’s order to notify the Clerk of Court of any good cause or reason why Judge Bellis should not sit on the case. According to Mr. Birnbrich, the Governor was not going to be present at any meeting allowed by the Chief Justice. *Hayi hinengge? Esta ha annok na grabe yan despiráo ya kana ha tai esperansa esta tatfoi ha keke ayek hayi malago-ña parao fatachong para hu disisidi i kaosa gi kotte ni guiya mismo tumutuhon. Taimanu ha i esta munayan hu sangan pa’go gi la’taftaf sigun i kattan Miller i gobietno ma’ma’maisen parao ale’ yan i hues pot i ina puntaña as hues Bellis parao ékungok i kaosa gi kotte.* Mr. Birbrich not only denied the Governor's attempt to meet with Chief Justice, he completely and conveniently left out the ex parte communication from his Co-counsel to the Chief Justice. It is clear that Mr. Birnbrich has masqueraded the facts to fit their narrative. And Mr. Birnbrich owes me an apology for his attempt to besmirch my reputation. I will be officially requesting the NMI Bar Association to investigate and determine Mr. Gil Birnbrich should be sanctioned and disciplined for making allegations against me. False allegations as the JGO Chairwoman. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield for now.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Representative Celina Babauta. Floor is still open. Recognize Representative Leila Staffler.

Representative Leila Haveia F.C. Staffler: Thank you, Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. And I want to take some time to just share some of my thought. On Friday last week, many of us from the House and the Senate attended the 14th Fire Cycle graduation. We got to listen to Honorable Judge Camacho as he spoke before he administered the Oath of Office to swear in this year's fire graduates. I paid particular attention because I learned something that I didn't fully grasp until that moment. He shared that, that Oath of Office that he was about to read ratified in 1977, an unaltered, unchanged to this day, has been the same for all of us who were ever elected or sworn in to a position of trust here in the Marianas. From every police officer, to every municipal council member, to every judge and each and every board member to every law enforcement officer in our ranks. From every person who has ever sat in these seats, here before us, since the First House of Representatives, to even the Governor himself, all of us, and all of them have raised their right hand and sworn that same oath. Even student councils swear that same oath. And based on the copious amounts of evidence presented by the JGO over these courses of weeks and weeks, it is clear that this oath to defend the constitution and the laws of the Commonwealth has been broken over and over and over again. To the Senate, I call on you to heed what the good judge reminded all of us, that the oath we take means that we vow to be loyal to the people of the Commonwealth. We vowed to be trustworthy as stewards of our land and resources. We vowed to defend the Commonwealth with integrity, to do the right thing, especially when no one is looking. And he said something else that really stood out to me. And I paid attention. He said, “the people are looking” *i taotao pa’go man man ripa’para*. I agree. The people are watching. They're watching to see who among us are loyal to the people, who among us are trustworthy with their future and who among us have the integrity to do what is right. The people are watching. *I taotao pa’go man man ripa’para*. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Staffler. Floor is still open for any discussion under Miscellaneous. Recognize Representative Patrick San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, we all know that the Governor has already been impeached by the House by the majority of

votes. Allow me, although my family has been in politics for 40 years, I would have never imagined that during my first term in office, I would have to vote on whether or not the impeach our Governor. For me, this is a very serious matter that I cannot take lightly and it seeks to remove the CNMI's highest ranking official from office and regardless who our Governor is and what party he or she might be from. We need to be careful in all our political games and tactics that we do not degrade, erode or belittle the Office of the Governor or blur the lines between separate branches of government, simply because we have the political majority to do so. Resolution 22-14 demands the Governor should be impeached due to commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty. As this very serious claim, it is incumbent upon all of us to ensure that these claims meet the highest, the highest evidentiary and legal threshold. To start, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I think the most pressing question that has been left unanswered is why as in the Public Auditor or the Attorney General address any of the JGO's claims or any violations? In my opinion, maybe the simple answer is that no crime has been committed. And the JGO is simply trying to convince this body and the people of the CNMI that their disapproval of how the Governor exercises his authority and discretion equates to felony. The resolution states that the Governor use public funds to attend political campaigns, but this is contrary to actual travel document presented. I respect the JGO committee and its members. The JGO committee never produced a single document that states the Governor traveled from Oregon or Guam or where else to attend a political function. Moreover, they never produced regulation or law that states if the Governor or any political official goes off-island on official business, then he or she cannot attend a political function after business hours. In fact, I would even mention that this is a common practice that many past and present members of the House and the Senate have engaged in routinely because it is not illegal. The resolution claims Theft of Utility Service, but it is unclear if the theft is due to the amount of utility benefits received or legal authorization to even receive any utility benefits. The resolution claims the law does not explicitly authorize the payment of utility service, but fails to acknowledge that the law does not prohibit either. And in regards to the amount of benefits allowed, the Chairman of the Special Investigating committee has acknowledge the absence of limit by recently, introducing a bill to cap the amount of utility benefits to \$1,000.00. It is, but we all know this authority lies with the judiciary. The resolution claims neglect of duty when the Governor traveled to the Northern Islands to promote the CNMI. Again, what laws or regulations have been violated if the Governor exercises his authority and discretion to promote the Northern part of our CNMI, within his expenditure authority by law from a budget appropriated by this legislature and although it's coming from an opposition legislature to disagree with the Governor's policies. The resolution claims contempt of the legislature because the Governor challenged the JGO committee authority to command that he appeared before them. Again, this issue is with the Attorney General's Office who has the legitimate authority to prosecute to the contempt claim. Not until a court rules on this matter, can the JGO claim contempt. So, until a court rules that the Governor should be held in contempt. This is not valid claim within the resolution. Mr. Speaker and colleague, I am aware that my time is limited. I would like to conclude by stating that this resolution leave me and the question unanswered and clearly does not reach the necessary threshold to impeach or to go for the impeachment of the Governor, which is already been impeached. However, it is pretty obvious that the numbers favor the majority. Therefore, if this matter reaches the Senate, I trust that the Senate will be fair and impartial in their review of the evidence and come to the conclusion not to convict the Governor. Let's not misuse our constitutional authority to further our majority's political agenda. Let the people decide at the voting polls, whether our Governor should remain in office or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Representative San Nicolas. Recognize Representative Ada.

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To my colleagues and to the general public, I'd just like to state my opinion and thoughts on these matters. I agree with colleague San Nicolas. So many things that I have thought to say, you've already said. One of the things that I do want to recognize is that the system has been tried. We went to the impeachment proceedings and everything the JGO – one thing that we can all agree on is that the system is flawed. I highly encourage our colleagues that with the great work and energy that you guys put into putting together, you know, all these documents before us that we use that energy to look into the laws that we are referencing and actually fix these laws. I wish that, you know, we could set aside political differences, but there's an obvious move here for political gain. I hear the testimonies in public comments in support of impeachment and my colleagues here who support impeachment or have supported impeachment have also stressed that out that the public has spoken. Well, let us not forget that there are many people that came up in support of no to the impeachment. So, are we just going to turn a blind eye to these guys? I have listened to both sides and I weighed the decision on this matter and voting "no" is not – personally, it's not a political thing. For me, it's really about gathering all the necessary information, documentation, and the resources that are afforded to us, the Attorney General and all the law enforcement to get their respective opinions and expert opinion on these things. I feel like I do not have that right now to support the impeachment and all of the people out there who are – there is a lot of people out there that are supporting or not supporting the impeachment. And these are the fine people that have been there through Yutu, through Soudelor, to all the disasters pushing forward, even though they get kicked down every time, but they keep moving forward to provide the services. I don't understand what is it that we're saying when the Governor is misguided has not provided the service. Soudelor and Yutu, look at where everybody's at now, today, there are homes that people didn't have the opportunity or it couldn't afford sustainable homes. Now, they have these structures that would help these individuals, the community, but yet we're here and this body is trying to impeach the Governor who had done so many work. And the reason why I say this is because I was there. I worked for the Administration. I've worked with the Administration when I wasn't a government employee during disasters, during the relief efforts with the COVID, he's managed to get 80% of people vaccinated. He's managed to keep this place safe and we're spending so much energy on the impeachment while our people are in need of the hospital is in need of resources. The schools are in need of our attention and yet we're here discussing impeachment. I yield, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Ada. I recognize Representative Manglona.

Representative Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Colleagues, remember this day, January 12, 2022, because on this day, our people got one step closer at taking back control of their government. One step closer at putting an end to the corruption that has festered our great Commonwealth. One step closer to ensuring a better future for all. As legislators, we have been entrusted by the people to serve in the best interests of the people. We have been tasked to listen to their concerns, fight for their equality and pave a future for their children to live in a society free of corruption. So let us not forget. For years, we have heard the cries for help. We've seen many struggle while the Governor and his circle of friends and family gained so much financially at the expense of our people. The evidence of extensive corruption is overwhelming

and we need to end it now. Our people demand it. Those opposed to impeachment would desperately say anything to distract from the truth. They are calling this a witch hunt, a political agenda you name it, they'll call it anything other than the truth, but the truth is our actions today were solely motivated by what our people demand and deserve, nothing else. The decision I made today was for the people of Rota and everyone that calls his Commonwealth. For those that were denied opportunities, struggle to keep their utilities on, put food on the table, worry about how they are going to get off-island, medical attention, pay for education and seek benefits as veterans. My vote is for them. With the impeachment proceedings now heading to the Senate, I just wanted to implore the Senate members to remember why they ran for office in the first place. Remember the people from your district that place their confidence in you and that you will serve for them. Remember our kids who look up to you, the veterans and the less fortunate who believe in you and ultimately chose you to represent them. Today marks an important day in our CNMI history one that thousands on and off island have witnessed and at this very moment, ask yourself, what side of history do you want to be in? I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manglona. I recognize Representative Leepan.

Representative Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase, inurapble Mr. Speaker. Yayas yo' esta. Esta puti talanga hu. Puti yo' man hasso. Bunito na ha'ane tutoña lao esta makpo. Mr. Speaker, gaige ha gi iyo-ta House Rules na kada committee debi na guaha pruduktu. Yanggen un container na patpet pues guaha tiempo hu chuka ti bai maigo sinko meses, sais meses lao malagu yo bai taitai eyu na report. Siña mohon an manhayan hu taitai eyu na report tinilaika botu hu lao taya. Mungi i fera guenao ko para ta pratiku enao na klasen sistema na kada hafa para ta choggue. Oh ti nisisaro report ginen i komite este ha ta choggue sa este gue dinanche. Pues para hafa na ta fan guaha iyo-ta House Rule. Hafa na klasen sistema ta tititiyi sa ti bonito. I abugado guini ha tungo enao na eyi gue na ma na gua'guaha meeting yan hearing siha ya ma chule enao na infatmasion ya ma file ya ma laknos huyong i report todú i miembro pao taitai hafa ma soda'. Enao in daggao mo'na, munge i respetu para guahu, para bai respeta hamyo lao mungi i respetu para guahu. Taya hu fa'faisen i report lao taya report ma na'i yo' sa ilék-ña na un container. Ti problema hu enao na container po'lu ya guahu la'mon kao bai matai manaitai. Umbis i biblia ni potpot todú hit tumaitaitai. Dalai ya ti siña mu gai report esta ta konbikta este na gobietno lao taya ni hu ungo ma sangan mensiona pot i pumalu siha na gobietno, kao taya baba bidan niha. Sin mas, unu ha na gobietno para ta konbikta. Maila ya konbikta este na gobietno sa guiya mas bula bidaña baba, kao magahet enao. Kao guaha ni hun hasso kao magahet na guiya ha baba gi todú' du dis ni ma establisia este i Commonwealth kao guiya ha na gobietno baba sa ti hu tungo. Pago ha na hu tungo guiya mas baba gi todú, i pumalo ha'e lao este na gobietno este gue mas sen baba sa mañake salape pupbliku. Lao ani maolek ha choggue, hayi man premu. Kao guaha ni ma premu i gobietno na Si Yu'us Ma'ase ni hafa bida mu. An pot enao ha nai Mr. Speaker pot i travel nai, man hanao hit ha para ta attende conference an manhayan i conference man hanao hit ta bisita i familia ta. Na soku na salape pupbliku eyu lao man hanao hit side trip man bakasion hit sa para ta check i mañelu ta, i familia ta, salape pupbliku eyu. Yanggen i gobietno enao gue ha cho'chogue pues hita lokkue man kotchino. Hayi guini parao sangan na taya ha cho'gue enao. Mr. Speaker, pa'go na ha'ane ni hu li'e taima'mano i karera ta. Bula na House Bill ma'maigo este fata des mesis ha. Man gef na'ma'malao este taya man ma fi'fitma na bill sigi ha ta introdusi huyong lao ma'matai ha. Fan man hongge este ni hafa iyon miyu bill, iyo ta bill guini gi san hilo na guma, munga ma hasso na parao huyong. Yanggen in fatinas tatte recycle ta'lo sa pare hu ha na sistema tenki ta'lo ma*

funot. Fan man hongge. Lao pa'go disganao yo' Mr. Speaker sa taya report hu li'li'e. Ya malago yo' esta manhayan este ta impeach i gobietno lao malago yo' kopia, malago yo' Mr. Speaker na ma na'i yo report ya maseha guahu bai taitai kada dia esta eleksion ta'lo. Lao pot fabót yanggen ilék-ña i komite na esta man manhayan siha pues maila repot, respeta yo' lokkue taimanu hu respeta hamyo an taya respetu. Sen mas, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Representative Leepan. I recognized Representative Ben Camacho.

Representative Vicente C. Camacho: Thank you, Speaker. I just wanted to read an excerpt from a Title I, Government Division 9, Miscellaneous Provision, subsection 9901, Legislative Declaration. The legislature finds and declares that all public commissions, boards, counsels, committees, subcommittees, departments, divisions, offices, and all other public agencies of the Commonwealth exists to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of this chapter that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly. The people of the Commonwealth do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people in delegating authority do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created. The provisions requiring open meetings and open records shall be liberally construed and the provisions providing for exceptions to the open meeting requirements and open records requirements shall be strictly construed against closed meetings and not non-disclosures of records. Thank you, I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Camacho. I now recognize Leader Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good afternoon to you colleagues and the people of the Commonwealth. Today, the bedrock of democracy was at work and we resolve the issue before us. Although, not unanimously, but that's what our democracy offers us a vote of the majority. Unfortunately, this process has also created an environment of severe division in our community, a division that was never there in our forefathers times and in recent history, but be that as it may I owe the people an explanation on why today, I was one of the dissenting votes. My dissension today is in consideration of the following after the conclusion of the same investigation and the 21st legislature, the findings of that investigation were provided to the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Public Auditor entities that hold the powers under the constitution to determine whether real improprieties were committed against the Commonwealth. House Resolution 22-14 today provided the members of this House with 16 pages containing six articles for impeachment, summarized for consideration by the full House. Six months ago, the committee opened this investigation and as we understand it, this investigation is still ongoing. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, having not concluded this investigation, there is no committee report to date, Representative Leepan has alluded to that. Without such report the members of the House that are not members of the committee lack the complete information evidence to bring charges to anyone, be it a Governor, be it a Lieutenant Governor or a judge. Impeachment is a constitutional tool that can also undo the will of the people. In this case to remove someone who was elected by the people and in reverence to the constitution, impeachment should also be an action we take by fully considering all the evidence, not just a summary of it by concluding the investigation and reporting out its findings and

evidence to the members. So we can all make decisions based on complete and factual information. The timeline of this investigation is flawed and I wish there was thoroughness over expediency. This was not the case today. So, I dissent it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Leader Demapan. Recognize Representative Yangetmai then Representative Flores.

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai: Thank you, Speaker. I'm going to speak *Refaluwasch* so relax. So, it's similar to what Rep. Manglona spoke about earlier. *Ai lo igheey bwe ai represent li ghami. Auwa pwóporo* articles of impeachment *kka Olow. Meta au mangi? I mwéshal bwe ibwe aighighami ngare aghal ghatch-eló mwo yami lol-lo mwiril malamal kewe ruwow – Soudelor me Yutu? Bwal ighila or ral kkeey, rel pandemic yel? Ighal aiyegh bwe, yamam – yami Rep's, ai weri nge. Eghi schiwel ssogh schó kka:* There are still many people who: 1) *Re schiwel kke mwómwót wow schagh me fal imwer tento ngare tarp kewe re bwughi me rel FEMA,* 2) *Jobless sangi schagh ighiwe re furlough-liir (ngare re ayurlo me rel yaar angang)* 3) *Re liisch lo mwiril yaar schó kewe re punguló rel pandemic yel bwele ese well-equip espitod ye yasch Ai ghal tungor ngalighami bwe aubwe schélighamam rel impeachment yel, bwe ghatusch alongasch. Au bwe toto Senate ngare rebwele apasa Six Articles kkal bwe aubwe óleg h mafi yami! Ghillisow.* I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Yangetmai. I now recognize Representative Flores.

Representative Joseph A. Flores: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, colleagues and the viewing audience,, after careful consideration and my faith, the articles of impeachment set forth in the House Resolution 22-14, I have come to the conclusion that I do not have all the evidence to make an informal decision today. With this being said, therefore, I voted abstain. Thank you, Speaker and colleagues and the viewing public. *Esta makpo.*

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Flores. The floor is still open for miscellaneous. Ready? Recognize Representative Tina Sablan.

Representative Christina Marie E. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just briefly and I do understand that comments made under miscellaneous are undebatable, but I'd like to address my colleagues across the aisle without debate. I wish that you had actually attended the JGO hearings. I wish that you had reviewed the documents that we reviewed and listen to the testimonies of the witnesses that we called to speak to us and answer our questions, which are many of the questions that you raised today. They answered those questions under oath and I wish that you had been there or at least watch the hearings, which were broadcast live on cable and streamed on social media. I wish that you had raised any questions at all in the special committee on impeachment of which you were members and have the opportunity to do so. If it was answers that you truly wanted, if it was an open mind that you truly brought to the table and an interest in truth and justice, you would have asked these questions long before the end of this session, after the vote was already taken, but more than anything, colleagues, all of my colleagues today, I wish that Governor Torres, after months, months of back and forth in the media, I wish that he himself had come to this body to answer the questions and address the concerns and the allegations and the charges against him. Explain all the evidence that we looked at over months, years, actually, of legislative investigation he chose not to do so. That was his

choice and there are consequences for that too. I respect all of you. I hope that we can come together again and continue to do the people's work. Impeachment, this process is a long road and today's session is really just the beginning. Thank you. I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Tina Sablan. Any further? Recognize Representative Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I just want to say that I'm grateful that this process has come to an end with regard to this impeachment. Whether you voted for or against, that's entirely up to you. It's your call. And we talk about, I respect your vote and everything, I mean that sincerely because my dear colleagues, I didn't get you elected. You got yourself elected. You are here because of you, each and every one of you. Of course, we always say thank you to our supporters, but it is because of the people that believe in you and trust in you, they put their faith in you. And all we have to do is to go out and explain to our constituents why we voted not going to criticize you for how you voted. That's not up to me to decide because I'm going to go out later and I'm sure there will be people that will say thank you for impeaching the Governor and then for sure, there'll be other people that will curse me and troll me and say the worst, most vial, heinous things that were possible. I looked past all of that. I look past that because of our friendship. And I say this sincerely, when we aren't discussing the impeachment and other things, look at how many times we voted together on issues. Look at how many times when there is a need for something we have come together. Those are the things that I look at, but I also look to the future and I asked you this because I am gravely concerned because right now, while we have debated the impeachment and it moves forward to the Senate, and I want to know what are we going to do about our current problems? You know, Governor Torres has been given a lot of credit for all the wonderful things he has done, but my dear colleagues and to those out there listening, I want you to understand that everything made possible is through taxpayers, through our constituents, through those here on island and in the mainland and other territories, both local and federal funds. We have a job to be fiscally responsible to ensure that spending is done the correct way. Colleagues, right now can you imagine this? How long have we been in this COVID pandemic? Almost two-years and yet we are still seeing emergency contracts, sole sourced, because it's called an emergency. No bidding, no announcement, no phone calls. One company gets a huge contract and it's not even an experienced company. It's not a company that's been around for a long time. It's a new company and the thing is we're bypassing procurement regulations. Why does procurement exist? Why have procurement? Let's just eliminate it because there is no purpose for it. If you mean to tell me that you can bypass procurement regulations, simply because you believe something is an emergency, then forget about recruitment because how do you justify an emergency? Let me give you an example. A building needs to be sanitized. We need somebody right away. All right, we're going to hire this company, Company X. This company gets hired to the tune of \$5,000.00 a day, almost to sanitize a multipurpose building. For example, when this contract or this invoice that was released and became news, a lot of people were shocked, but you know, who was mostly shocked? Well, the other companies, legitimate companies that do sanitizing. Yes. They contacted me. They called me, I've met with a few and they said, how was it I never knew about this. And what was disturbing about this was the fact that this company was hired, there was a 213 form that wasn't done until the this started in November, right? And the justification for sole source wasn't done until December 8. December 8. That was a clear month. The work was done, everything was done and that the sole source justification was done on December 8. What troubled me a lot about this was that it said in the justification that this company is the only one

that can perform this. It's not true. There were other companies willing to do it that didn't know about it, but how is it that these other companies were bypassed? For what reason? Connect the dots, was this company connected? How so? Was this company better than any other company? That's what we have to go back and talk to these companies and our constituents and say, this is justified because this is the greatest company and no one was available, but that's not true. Worst yet, I've been trying to get information. We are representatives right? From the Department of Corrections. We know that it's been sanitized. No one knows how much it costs. No one. And when I mean no one, Department of Corrections, nobody know; invoices. I called the GAR Patrick Guerrero, nobody knows, Homeland Security nobody knows. Department of Finance, nobody knows. No invoices submitted, yet they were hired. We want to talk about fairness, right? My colleagues, whether whatever side of the aisle, you're on, look at me right now and answer me is this fair? It is not and it doesn't matter whether we're Republican, Democrat or Independent. How do we assure fairness when it comes to going and getting a bid? Why is this happening? Colleagues, I ask you this because it continues and it's going to continue until we put an end to it. Whether you vote “yes” or “no” to impeachment, I ask for you to join me in looking at this and trying our best to work together in ensuring fairness for all. Eliminate the sole source contracts that we've seen too often and establish fairness for everyone, every company, so that they get a fair shot. I said this today for those companies that complained. And by the way, before we end, what they were willing to bid for it was a fraction of what was paid, a tiny fraction. And what hurts me more? What I found out is that the money that is fronted is taxpayer funds locally. It's reimbursed later by FEMA, not first. So when we talk about not having money, maybe it's because we're putting all our money into companies like this. So, in closing colleagues, let's move forward, let's start looking at fairness. Let's give everybody an equal opportunity and equal shot. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Propst. Any further under miscellaneous?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Ready? All right. We'll move down to item XVIII, Announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: I'd like to announce that the memorial service for our late Assistant Sergeant-at-arms Dennis Masga Reyes will be on January 14. His remains will be leaving the CHCC morgue at around 8:30 in route to the cathedral where the mass of Christian burial will be at 11:00 AM and between the time of 8:30 and 11, there will be rosary *responso* and a time for you to pay your last respects? The Legislative Bureau will be on leave for half the day to attend the service. Thank you. Please keep him in your prayers and his family as well. Announcement, Leila Staffler.

Representative Leila Haveia F.C. Staffler: Thank you, Speaker. I would just like to welcome all of my colleagues and the general public who might be listening today, precinct 5 will be hosting a swap meet on January 22nd in the Kagman Community Center area from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. It'll be a huge multi-family swap meet event with over 20 people who have come to clean up

their house and sell their upcycled things for you to check them out. So, January 22nd 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM Kagman Community Center. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Staffler. Any further under announcement? Ready. All right. We'll move down to adjournment and I recognize the Floor Leader.

ADJOURNMENT

Floor Leader Ralph N. Yumul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I now offer a motion to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The House adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Venetia S. Rosario
House Journal Clerk

Attachment:

- Representative Denita K. Yangetmai – Statement under Miscellaneous Business

APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS

FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY: 1st Legislative appearance of a local bill is on the day it is introduced.

SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY:

H. L. B. NO. 22-28: To amend Saipan Local Law 22-6, Section 101(a) to restructure the local license fee imposed on all electronic gaming devices as defined in Title 6 section 3154(a) (4), located within the Third Senatorial District. Introduced by REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on December 20, 2021.

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:

H. L. B. NO. 22-26: To authorize, establish, and regulate casino gambling within the Third Senatorial District. Introduced by REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on October 29, 2021.

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on December 20, 2021:

H. B. NO. 22-85: To amend Title 1, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 1, Article 7 of the Commonwealth Code by permitting private employers to exercise a voluntary veterans' preference in employment relating to veterans' relief;

and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ of Saipan, Precinct 3, (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, and Donald M. Manglona) on December 20, 2021; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs.

H. B. NO. 22-86: To amend 1 CMC Section 26018 Amendment of Vital Records. Introduced by REP. CHRISTINA M.E. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for herself*, (Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, Sheila J. Babauta, Vicente C. Camacho, Richard T. Lizama, and Edwin K. Propst, and Leila H.F.C. Staffler) on December 20, 2021; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Health and Welfare.

H. B. NO. 22-87: To prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, to be known as the CNMI Equality Act or *Áktun Achá-Parehu* or *Alléghúl Aweewepagh* of 2021. Introduced by REP. CHRISTINA M.E. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for herself*, (Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Celina R. Babauta, Sheila J. Babauta, Richard T. Lizama, Edwin K. Propst, and Leila H.F.C. Staffler) on December 20, 2021; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 22-88: To amend 1 CMC §§8222-8223 to clarify the provision of official residences for eligible elected officials as well as implement a reasonable cap on the amount of utility charges allowed per month; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, (Representatives Joel C. Camacho, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph A. Flores, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul) on December 20, 2021; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 22-89: To exempt pre-existing village and agricultural homestead structures, existing from January 1985 to January 2000, that are encroaching on public lands; and for other purposes. Introduced by JOSEPH A. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, (Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Joel C. Camacho, Angel A. Demapan, John Paul P. Sablan, and Patrick H. San Nicolas) on December 20, 2021; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H. B. NO. 22-90: To create a “CNMI Road & Highway Regulatory Signs” account separate from the general fund; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JOSEPH A. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, (Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Joel C. Camacho, Angel A. Demapan, John Paul P. Sablan, and Patrick H. San Nicolas) on December 20, 2021; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications and to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H. L. B. NO. 22-28: To amend Saipan Local Law 22-6, Section 101(a) to restructure the local license fee imposed on all electronic gaming devices as defined in Title 6 section 3154(a) (4), located within the Third Senatorial District. Introduced by REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on December 20, 2021.

H. RES. NO. 22-13: To honor and commend the late Maya Kara for her relentless dedication and selfless contributions to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and to extend our heartfelt condolences to her bereaved family on her untimely passing. Introduced by REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, (Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Richard T. Lizama, Corina L. Magofna, Donald M. Manglona, Edwin K. Propst, Christina M.E. Sablan, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Leila H.F.C. Staffler, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on December 20, 2021; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

H. RES. NO. 22-14: Impeaching Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, pursuant to Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth for commission of felonies, corruption, and neglect of duty, in violation of Article III, Section 19 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth. Introduced by REP. CELINA R. BABAUTA of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for herself*, (Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Richard T. Lizama, Corina L. Magofna, Donald M. Manglona, Edwin K. Propst, Christina M.E. Sablan, John Paul P. Sablan, Leila H.F.C. Staffler, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on December 20, 2021.

C. RES. NO. 22-5: To honor and commend the late Glicerio “Eli” Del Mundo Arago for his countless contributions to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Introduced by REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, (Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, Joel C.

Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Richard T. Lizama, Corina L. Magofna, Donald M. Manglona, Edwin K. Propst, Christina M.E. Sablan, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Leila H.F.C. Staffler, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on December 20, 2021; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

House information on deadlines for override: None