



**OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT**  
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

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**SENATOR EDITH E. DELEON GUERRERO**  
Senate President

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: April 4, 2024

To: All Members of the Senate

From: President of the Senate /s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Sen. Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero

Subject: FIRST SPECIAL SESSION - 2024

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By the powers vested in me pursuant to the Interim Rules of the Senate and the Open Government Act, this is to inform all members that the 1<sup>st</sup> Day, First Special Session is scheduled for ***Monday, April 8, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., Senate Chamber, Saipan.***

Your understanding and attendance are greatly appreciated.

Cc: Speaker of the House  
Director, LB  
Senate Legal Counsels  
Senate Clerk  
Senate Sergeant-at-Arms  
SAPLR  
KSPN2 News  
Saipan Tribune  
Marianas Variety



## *The Senate*

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

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April 5, 2024

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq.), the Senate of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will convene the following open and public session:

**MEETING:** 1<sup>st</sup> Day, First Special Session - 2024  
**DATE AND TIME:** Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Senate Chamber, Saipan

Copies of session call, this notice and agenda have been filed in the Office of the Senate Clerk, released to the media, and posted at the following locations:

Office of the Governor, Entrance Hall  
House of Representatives, Entrance Hall  
Senate, Entrance Hall  
Commonwealth Legislature website ([www.cnmileg.net](http://www.cnmileg.net))

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9904, written comments on agenda items may be submitted to the Office of the Senate President, Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan or via email to the Senate Clerk's Office at [doloresbermudes.lb@gmail.com](mailto:doloresbermudes.lb@gmail.com), prior to the convening of the session. Oral testimony may be presented during the public session.



April 5, 2024

***THE SENATE***  
**TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH  
LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SENATE SESSION - 2024**

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
1 <sup>st</sup> Day	Monday, April 8, 2024	1:00 p.m.
	SENATE CHAMBER, SAIPAN	

***ORDER OF BUSINESS***

***A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER***

**A. ROLL CALL:**

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**C. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL:**

1. **SJ 23-27** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Day, Third Regular Session 2/9/24
2. **SJ 23-28** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Day, Third Regular Session 2/20/24
3. **SJ 23-29** - 4<sup>th</sup> Day, Third Regular Session 2/26/24

**D. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:**

1. **Gov. Msg. No 23-253:** Mar. 12, 2024 – Re-nomination of Dr. Martin P. Rohringer to serve as a member of the Health Care Professions Licensing Board representing Physicians.
2. **Gov. Msg. No 23-254:** Mar. 12, 2024 – Nomination of Mr. Jose P. Kiyoshi to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Election Commission representing the Second Senatorial District.
3. **Gov. Msg. No 23-255:** Mar. 18, 2024 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No, 23-40, D1 - To re-appropriate Eighty-Seven Thousand, Four Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars (\$87,465.00) allotted under Tinian Local Law 20-7, and Thirty Thousand Dollars

(\$30,000.00) allotted under Tinian Local Law 22-04 § 2(a); and for other purposes, becomes *TINIAN LOCAL LAW NO. 23-09*.

4. **Gov. Msg. No 23-256:** Mar. 18, 2024 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No, 23-33 - To increase the local license fee for pachinko slot machines and poker machines in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes., becomes *TINIAN LOCAL LAW NO. 23-10*.
5. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-257:** Mar. 18, 2024 – Signed into law H.B. No, 23-61 - To establish a right of survivorship for certain causes of action., becomes *PUBLIC LOCAL LAW NO. 23-17*.
6. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-258:** Mar. 22, 2024 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest and drug test result of Ms. Susan R. Babauta nominated to serves as a member of the Commonwealth Election Commission.
7. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-259:** Apr. 1, 2024 – Governor’s Budget Proposal for FY 2025.

**E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY:**

1. **Jud. Comm. No. 23-09:** Mar. 06, 2024 – Judiciary FY 2025 Budget request.
2. **Jud. Comm. No. 23-10:** Mar. 19, 2024 – Judiciary re Fiscal responsibility and expenditure approval process.

**F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPT.:**

1. **Dept. Msg. No. 23-67:** Mar. 08, 2024 – DOF response to Senate President’s re 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter ended September 30, 2023 Financial Report.
2. **Dept. Msg. No. 23-68:** Mar. 11, 2024 – DPL regarding Suwaso Corporation dba Coral Ocean Resort’s new lease.

**G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE: (NONE)**

1. **Hse. Comm. No. 23-121:** Mar. 13, 2024 – Rejected the Senate amendments to *H.B. No. 23-95, HSI, SS3* – To Repeal and Re-enact PL 23-12; and for other purposes. Appointment of members to serve as conferees.
2. **Hse. Comm. No. 23-122:** Mar. 28, 2024 – Transmitting for Senate action *H.B. 23-104, HD1* – To appropriate \$5,236,000.00 of the dividends collected by the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority (CEDA) from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) for the Twenty Five Percent

(25%) retirees' pension for all retirees of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

3. **Hse. Comm. No. 23-123:** Apr. 4, 2024 – Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. 23-97** – To amend certain provisions of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission Act of 2006; and for other purposes.
4. **Hse. Comm. No. 23-124:** Apr. 4, 2024 – Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. 23-99** – To require all vessels and/or motorboats to possess and utilize a Global Positioning System (GPS).
5. **Hse. Comm. No. 23-125:** Apr. 4, 2024 – Representative John Paul P. Sablan's letter of support for Ms. Luella I. Marciano.

**H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:**

1. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-409:** Mar. 12, 2024 – Referral to REDP& Gaming Committee S.B. No. 23-14.
2. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-410:** Mar. 12, 2024 – Senator Mendiola off-island notice 03/12/24 to 03/18/24.
3. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-411:** Mar. 13, 2024 – Referral to EAGI Committee the nomination of Jose P. Kiyoshi to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Election Commission.
4. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-412:** Mar. 13, 2024 – Referral to EAGI Committee the re-nomination of Dr. Martin Rohringer to serve as a member of the Health Care Professions Licensing Board.
5. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-413:** Mar. 13, 2024 – Appointment of Senate conferees to H.B. No. 23-95 HS1, SS3 – To repeal and re-enact PL 23-12; and for other purposes.
6. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-414:** Mar. 18, 2024 – Senate President to SOF regarding Bank of Guam Trust Account.
7. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-415:** Mar. 18, 2024 – Senate President to BOG Vice President regarding CNMI Government Trust Account.
8. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-416:** Mar. 20, 2024 – Referral to REDP&G re DPL Suwaso Corporation dba Coral Ocean Resort's New Lease.
9. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-417:** Mar. 26, 2024 – Referral to FA S.B. No. 23-61.

10. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-418:** Mar. 27, 2024 – Referral to EAGI Committee the nomination of Ms. Susan R. Babauta to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Election Commission.
11. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-419:** Mar. 28, 2024 – Referral to FA H.B. 23-104, HD1.
12. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-420:** Apr. 2, 2024 – Withdrawal of S.B. 23-61 to Committee on FA.
13. **Sen. Comm. No. 421:** Apr. 1, 2024 – Referral to FA re Governor’s Proposed FY 2025 Budget.

**I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE WASHINGTON DELEGATE:**

1. **Wash. Del. No. 23-05:** Mar. 05, 2024 – Commonwealth Medicaid Agency’s request for the use of FY 2024 Medicaid funds.

**J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (NONE)**

**K. PRE-FILED BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **Senate Bill No. 23-61:** To amend 1 CMC § 8390 to allow the Settlement Fund to make adjustments to benefit payments to reflect the correct calculation going forward and to authorize waivers of overpayments of retirement benefits; and for other purposes. *[SEN. EDITH E. DELEON GUERRERO – 03/22/24]*
2. **Senate Resolution No. 23-17:** To honor the life of Honorable Pedro Rogolifoi Deleon Guerrero and his immeasurable contributions and enduring dedication to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and its people. *[SEN. EDITH E. DELEON GUERRERO – 04/05/24]*
3. **Senate Bill No. 23-62:** To require all contractors to be licensed in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. *[SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 04/05/24]*

**L. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**M. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

1. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-76:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on *H.B. No. 23-7* – To amend 4 CMC §1401(d) to increase revenues by properly taxing tobacco products. *[Recommends passage in the form of H.B. No. 23-7, SS1]*



2. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-77:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on *H.B. No. 23-56* – To utilize the remaining sixty percent (60%) of the total of indirect cost revenue or reimbursement by fiscal year collected for each grant to address the CNMI Government’s financial deficit; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of H.B. 23-56, SD1]*
3. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-78:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on *H.B. No. 23-89* – To appropriate Three Hundred Eighty Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Thirty-Three Cents (\$380,529.33) generated under 4 CMC § 53036; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of H.B. 23-89, SD1]*
4. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-79:** From the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of *Mr. Pedro Q. Dela Cruz* to serve as a member of the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) representing the First Senatorial District.
5. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-80:** From the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of *Ms. Luella I. Marciano* to serve as a Resident Executive for the Indigenous Affairs Office.

**N. REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: (NONE)**

**O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:**

1. **S.R. No. 23-15** - To promote e-commerce with tax benefits in order to attract internet-based businesses and other new industries to the CNMI.

**P. BILL CALENDAR:**

**FINAL READING**

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.B. No. 23-61	<i>To amend 1 CMC § 8390 to allow the Settlement Fund to make adjustments to benefit payments to reflect the correct calculation going forward and to authorize waivers of overpayments of retirement benefits; and for other purposes.</i>
H.B. No. 23-7, SS1 (See SCR 23-76)	<i>To amend 4 CMC §1401(d) to increase revenues by properly taxing tobacco products.</i>

<p><b>H.B. No. 23-56, SD1</b>  (See SCR 23-77)</p>	<p><i>To utilize the remaining sixty percent (60%) of the total of indirect cost revenue or reimbursement by fiscal year collected for each grant to address the CNMI Government's financial deficit; and for other purposes.</i></p>
<p><b>H.B. No. 23-89, SD1</b>  (See SCR 23-78)</p>	<p><i>To appropriate Three Hundred Eighty Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Thirty-Three Cents (\$380,529.33) generated under 4 CMC § 53036; and for other purposes.</i></p>

**Q. PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS;**

1. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-163:** Mar. 11, 2024 – MPLT request for inclusion of the American Memorial Park Trust Fund in Section 902 Talks with US DOI and National Park Service.
2. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-164:** Mar. 12, 2024 – Badger LLC comments on S.B. No. 23-60, SR 23-14 and 15 presented during the Senate session on March 12, 2024.
3. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-165:** Mar. 13, 2024 – LB regarding the Oleai Elementary School's visit to the Legislature on March 22, 2024.
4. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-166:** Mar. 12, 2024 – Certified TALD Commemorative Resolution No. 23-02 – Antonio Hoashi Borja.
5. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-167:** Mar. 14, 2024 – Davis ERP Consulting (DEC) regarding Munis System in the CNMI Government.
6. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-168:** Mar. 22, 2024 – BG Michael W. Cruz, the Adjutant General – Guam National Guard would like to present a "GUNG 101" briefing to the leadership of the CNMI on March 22, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.
7. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-169:** Mar. 21, 2024 – Saipan Chamber of Commerce comments on S.B. 23-57.
8. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-170:** Mar. 29, 2024 – Commonwealth Election Commission's FY 2025 Budget Request.
9. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-171:** Mar. 27, 2024 – Ms. Johanna Ada's support letter for Mrs. Luella Marciano's nomination to serve as the Resident Director for the Indigenous Affairs Office.
10. **Misc. Comm. No. 23-172:** Apr. 2, 2024 – United Airlines re United fares on Saipan to Guam route.

**R. ANNOUNCEMENTS; and**

**S. ADJOURNMENT.**



APPEARANCE OF SENATE LOCAL BILLS

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
	<i>NONE</i>

The Senate may consider, debate, and/or act upon any item contained in this Order of Business at the time and place described herein.