



# House of Representatives

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586  
SAIPAN, MP 96950

Linda B. Muña, House Clerk  
Office of the House Clerk  
Telephone: 670.664.8848  
Facsimile: 670.664.8849  
[munal@cnmileg.net](mailto:munal@cnmileg.net)

HC Document Control No. 2

1/31/2023

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedures and the authority under the NMI Constitution, the Speaker of the House of Representatives announces that the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will convene the following open and public meeting:

**Meeting:** House of Representatives Second Day, First Regular Session  
**Date and Time:** Friday, February 3, 2023, at 2:00 PM  
**Location:** House Chamber, Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill

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

Administration Building Entrance Hall  
House of Representatives Entrance Hall  
Senate Entrance Hall  
Commonwealth Legislature website ([www.cnmileg.net](http://www.cnmileg.net))

Written comments on agenda items may be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before the meeting date. Oral testimony may be presented during the meeting on Friday, February 3, 2023.

DISTRIBUTION LIST:


SAPLRO: [amy.shai@gov.mp](mailto:amy.shai@gov.mp)  
Marianas CableVision: [mbirmingham@saipan.com](mailto:mbirmingham@saipan.com)  
KCNM/KZMI Radio Station: [KZMI-FM@pticom.com](mailto:KZMI-FM@pticom.com)  
KSPN NEWS: [lannie@kspn2.com](mailto:lannie@kspn2.com)  
Marianas Variety News: [editor@mvariety.com](mailto:editor@mvariety.com)  
Saipan Tribune: [Jayvee\\_Vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:Jayvee_Vallejera@saipantribune.com)  
KKMP Radio Station: [cnmiradio@gmail.com](mailto:cnmiradio@gmail.com)  
Guam Business magazine/Marianas Business Journal: [businesseditor@glimpsesofguam.com](mailto:businesseditor@glimpsesofguam.com)



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**  
**Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building**  
**P. O. BOX 500586**  
**Saipan, MP 96950**

**EDMUND SABLAN VILLAGOMEZ**  
**SPEAKER**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE** : 27 January 2023  
**TO** : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS  
**FROM** : Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez   
**SUBJECT** : Call for Session, 2<sup>nd</sup> Day, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session

---

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the **2<sup>nd</sup> day, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session for Friday, 03 February 2023 at 2:00 p.m.** in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President  
House Clerk  
LB Director  
SAPLR  
Media

HOUSE CLERK'S OFC  
RECEIVED BY   
1/30/2023  
DATE TIME 7:22 am



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION 2023

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
2nd Day, First Regular Session	Friday, February 3, 2023	2:00 p.m.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

*A Moment of Silence*

- ROLL CALL**
- PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- ADOPTION OF JOURNALS**

*First Day, First Regular Session Journal - January 9, 2023*

## **4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

### **A. House Bills:**

#### **H. B. No. 23-1**

To amend 7 CMC §4101 to lower the interest rate of civil money judgments from nine percent (9%) to three percent (3%).

**Filed by:** REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

#### **H. B. No. 23-2**

To require the Department of Public Works to establish a solid waste transfer stations in Kagman and the southern portion of the Island of Saipan; and for other purposes.

**Filed by:** REP. ROMAN C. BENAVENTE of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself, Representative Manny G.T. Castro*)

#### **H. B. No. 23-3**

To impose a toll fee to be paid by passengers who enter the Marpi area; and for other purposes.

**Filed by:** REP. ROMAN C. BENAVENTE of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

#### **H. B. No. 23-4**

To establish a process for the delivery of a State of the Commonwealth Address to the Legislature by the Governor.

**Filed by:** REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-5**

To amend 2 CMC §§ 5631 and 5109 to authorize gill net, locally known as “tekking” in the Third Senatorial District and provide additional penalties for any violations.

**Prefiled by: REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-6**

To amend 4 CMC § 8112 to prioritize net metering to include public libraries; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Marissa R. Flores, Edwin K. Propst, and Ralph N. Yumul)

**H. B. NO. 23-7**

To amend 4 CMC §1401(d) to increase revenues by properly taxing tobacco products.

**Prefiled by: REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Marissa R. Flores, and Ralph N. Yumul)

**H. B. NO. 23-8**

To require all contractors to be licensed in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**Prefiled by: REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-9**

To require legislative appropriation for all non-locally-sourced funds allocated for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**Prefiled by: REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-10**

To amend 8 CMC §1204, as amended by Public Law 22-25, to create an exemption to the requirement that a marriage certificate include the “places of residence”.

**Prefiled by: REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Malcom J. Omar, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

**H. B. NO. 23-11**

To amend Title 1, Division 8 of the Commonwealth Code by establishing a Veterans’ Preference employment provision for the CNMI Government; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-12**

To amend 1 CMC § 7831 to provide for direct legislative appropriation to the Office of the Public Auditor, and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)

**B. House Local Bills:**

**H. L. B. NO. 23-1**

To appropriate \$800,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Malcom J. Omar, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez , Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul)

**C. House Legislative Initiatives:**

**5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

**A. House Resolutions:**

**H. RES. NO. 23-2**

Respectfully requesting the Secretary of the Department of Public Works (DPW) to negotiate and certify the compensation or land exchange for the taking of a private property adjacent to the Susupe social hall and basketball court area in Susupe, Saipan for public purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 and **REP. MANNY G. T. CASTRO** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for themselves* Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Edwin K. Propst, and Ralph N. Yumul)

**B. House Joint Resolutions:**

**C. House Commemorative Resolutions:**

**D. House Concurrent Resolutions:**

**6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**

GOV. COMM. 23-1: (1/6/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 23-79, HS1, SS1, (*To comply with federal law regarding motor vehicle safety and other standards, including allowing for right-hand drive vehicles that are 25 years or older to be imported and registered in the CNMI; to allow the continued registration of motor vehicles already in the CNMI but otherwise not in compliance with federal law; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 23-26** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-2: (received 1/9/2023) **Executive Order 2023-01** – *RENEWAL–Declaration of State of Public Health Emergency and continued Declaration of State of Significant Emergency establishing response, quarantine, and preventive containment measures concerning coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); and RENEWAL–Order directing the Homeland Security & Emergency Management Office through the CNMI COVID-19 Task Force in partnership with the*

*Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation to undertake necessary COVID-19 containment measures by means of the development of Emergency Directives to protect the health and safety of the public.*

GOV. COMM. 23-3: (1/20/2023) Informing the House that he vetoed H. L. B. No. 22-44, D1, *(To appropriate \$344,000.00 from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.)*. [*For info*]

## **7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS**

SEN. COMM. 23-1: (1/9/2023) From the Senate President re: *appointment of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate Standing Committee Chairpersons*. [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 23-2: (1/12/2023) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 23-01, entitled, *“To adopt the Interim Rules of the Senate for the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.”*, which was adopted by the Senate on January 9, 2023. [*For info*]

## **8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS**

HSE. COMM. 23-1: (1/9/2023) From Representative Aldan, PUTC Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-2: (1/10/2023) From the minority caucus appointing Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas as the Minority Leader for the House of Representatives — 23<sup>rd</sup> Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. [*For Info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-3: (1/10/2023) From Representative Marissa R. Flores, JGO Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-4: (1/10/2023) From Representative Omar, HW Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Health and Welfare. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-5: (1/10/2023) From Representative Ogo, C&T Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Commerce & Tourism. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-6: (1/10/2023) From Representatives Malcolm J. Omar and Angelo A. Camacho informing the House that the Governor has been notified that the 23<sup>rd</sup> House of Representatives is duly organized and ready to conduct business on January 9, 2023. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-7: (1/10/202) From Representatives Marissa R. Flores and Julie A. Ogo informing the House that the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate has been notified that the 23<sup>rd</sup> House of Representatives is duly organized and ready to conduct business on January 9, 2023. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-8: (1/11/2023) From Speaker Villagomez appointing members to the Ad Hoc Committee pursuant to HRes 23-1. Ad Hoc Committee Chair and members: Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst (Chair); Vice Speaker Joel C. Camacho; and Representative Diego V. F. Camacho. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-9: (1/12/2023) From Representative Aldan, PUTC Chair, submitting amended composition appointing an additional member to the House Standing Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-10: (1/12/2023) From Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan and Manny G.T. Castro informing the House that the NMI Judiciary has been notified that the 23<sup>rd</sup> House of Representatives is duly organized and ready to conduct business on January 9, 2023. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-11: (1/12/2023) From Representative Yumul, WM Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Ways & Means. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-12: (1/12/2023) From Representative Castro, Education Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Education. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-13: (1/13/2023) From Representative Angelo A. Camacho, NR Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Natural Resources. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-14: (1/17/2023) From Representative Omar, H&W Chair, submitting amended composition to the House Standing Committee on Health and Welfare. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-15:(1/17/2023) From Representative Diego V.F. Camacho, Cannabis Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Cannabis. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-16: (1/18/2023) From Representative Diego V.F. Camacho, Cannabis Chair, submitting revised composition to the House Standing Committee on Cannabis. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-17: (1/18/2023) From Representative Vicente C. Camacho, FFA Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-18: (1/19/2023) From Representative Marissa R. Flores, JGO Chair, appointing additional members to the House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-19: (1/24/2023) From Representative Yumul, Gaming Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Gaming. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-20: (1/24/2023) From Representative Ogo, C&T Chair, submitting amended composition appointing an additional member to the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-21: (1/24/2023) From Speaker Villagomez appointing Representative Julie M.A. Ogo to the State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) as a member of the House of Representatives. [*For info-see 29 U.S.C. §3111*]

## **9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH**

JUD. BR. COMM. 23-1: (1/23/2023 received 1/24/2023) From Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro to the Senate President and Speaker of the House submitting: *Proposed NMI Rules of Guardianship Procedure*. [*Submitted 1/24/2023; Deadline: 3/25/2023*]

JUD. BR. COMM. 23-2: (1/23/2023 received 1/24/2023) From Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro to the Senate President and Speaker of the House submitting: *Proposed NMI Rules of Family Dispute Mediation*. [*Submitted 1/24/2023; Deadline: 3/25/2023*]

## **10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES – (None)**

**11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS**

MISC. COMM. 23-1: (1/17/2023) From the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council (SNIMC or SMC) informing the House that the 17th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council is duly organized and ready to conduct business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-2: (1/19/2023) From the Chairperson of the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation (TALD) informing the House that the 23<sup>rd</sup> TALD is duly organized and ready to conduct legislative business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-3: (1/20/2023) From the Chairman of the Twenty-Third Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation informing the House that the 23<sup>rd</sup> SNILD is duly organized and ready to transact business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-4: (1/20/2023) From the Chairman of the Twenty-Third Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation re: *appointment of the 23<sup>rd</sup> SNILD Standing Committee Chairpersons.* [*For Info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-5: (1/24/2023) From Representative Attao, SNILD WM Chair, appointing members to the SNILD Standing Committee on Ways & Means. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-6: (1/24/2023) From the Chairperson of the Rota Legislative Delegation (RLD) informing the House that the 23<sup>rd</sup> RLD is duly organized and ready to conduct legislative business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-7: (1/27/2023) From the Mr. Oscar M. Babauta, Chairman of the 2023 Inauguration committee within the Office of the Governor-elect Arnold I. Palacios and Lieutenant Governor-elect David M. Apatang re: *submission of the financial and activities summary report of the inaugural committee.* [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-8: (1/26/2023) From the Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors (APIPA) re: *Completion of peer review of the CNMI's Office of the Public Auditor pursuant to government auditing standards peer review requirements contained in the Peer Review Guide by the APIPA.* [*For info*]

**12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (None)**

**13. REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES – (None)**

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (None)**

**15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR**

<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Action</b>



**16. BILL CALENDAR**

<b>Bill/Initiative</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Action</b>

**17. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**18. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

---

**(ADJOURNMENT)**

---

***APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS***

**FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative appearance of a local bill is on the day it is introduced.

**SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY:**

**THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:**