



# House of Representatives

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

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SAIPAN, MP 96950

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3/6/2023

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 Fourth Day, First Regular Session  
**Date and Time:** Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 10:00 AM  
**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 Thursday, March 9, 2023.

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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 : 28 February 2023  
TO : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS  
FROM : Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez   
SUBJECT : Call for Session, 4<sup>th</sup> Day, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session

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Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the 4<sup>th</sup> Day, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session for Thursday, 09 March 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President  
House Clerk  
LB Director  
SAPLR  
Media

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION 2023

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
4th Day, First Regular Session	Thursday, March 9, 2023	10:00 a.m.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

*A Moment of Silence*

**1. ROLL CALL**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**3. ADOPTION OF JOURNALS – (2)**

*Second Day, First Regular Session Journal – February 3, 2023*

*Third Day, First Regular Session Journal – February 15, 2023*

**4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**A. House Bills:**

**H. B. No. 23-18**

To reduce the CNMI's growing litter problem and to conserve resources by accepting beverage containers for refund value and providing penalties.

**Prefiled by:** REP. MANNY G. T. CASTRO 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, Marissa R. Flores, John Paul P. Sablan, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

**H. B. No. 23-19**

To provide a tax credit for taxpayers who make donations of cash or food supplies to a qualified local food pantry, homeless shelter, or soup kitchen.

**Prefiled by:** REP. MANNY G. T. CASTRO of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself, Representatives Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez*)

**H. B. No. 23-20**

To amend the quorum and removal of members provisions for the State Board of Education; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. MANNY G. T. CASTRO** of Saipan, Precinct 2 and **REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for themselves*, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, Malcom J. Omar, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

**H. B. NO. 23-21**

To amend the compensation of the CNMI Cannabis Commission members.

**Prefiled by: REP. DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Marissa R. Flores, Malcom J. Omar, and Edwin K. Propst)

**H. B. NO. 23-22**

To establish an investigative division of the Office of Attorney General, codify investigative subpoena power and improve the investigation of cases involving public corruption.

**Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*, Representatives Edmund S. Villagomez and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai)

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

To establish a CNMI Drug Overdose Policy; to authorize and mandate first responders to possess opioid overdose reversal medication; to authorize standing orders for opioid overdose reversal medication; to provide limited immunity for dispensing opioid overdose reversal medication; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. MALCOM J. OMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-24**

To provide an affirmative defense against drug possession charges in the case of an overdose.

**Prefiled by: REP. MALCOM J. OMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-25**

To amend certain provisions of the CNMI Good Samaritan Act [7 CMC § 2801 *et seq.*]; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. MALCOM J. OMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

**H. B. NO. 23-26**

To amend 4 CMC 1402 (g)(1) to allocate 10 percent of the excise tax to the Solid Waste Management Revolving Fund.

**Prefiled by: REP. BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Roman C. Benavente, Manny G. T. Castro, Marissa R. Flores, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul)

**B. House Local Bills:**

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

To amend the Rota Dog Control Act under Title 10, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 2, of the Commonwealth Code.

**Prefiled by: REP. JULIE M. A. OGO** of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*)

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

To re-appropriate Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Forty-Six Dollars (\$11,246.00) allotted under Tinian Local Law 18-09; Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$14,159.00) allotted under Tinian Local Law 19-13; Thirty Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars (\$30,882.00) from Tinian Local Law 19-15; One Hundred Ninety-One Dollars (\$191.00) from Tinian Local Law 20-9; Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) from Tinian Local Law 20-17; and One Thousand Forty Dollars (\$1,040.00) from Tinian Local Law 20-17; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS** of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*)

**C. House Legislative Initiatives:**

**5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

**A. House Resolutions:**

**H. RES. NO. 23-5**

To congratulate and honor all the women in the Commonwealth as we celebrate their contributions and achievements during the month of March 2023 proclaimed as CNMI Women's Month and March 8<sup>th</sup> as International Women's Day.

**Prefiled by: REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, and Marissa R. Flores*)

**B. House Joint Resolutions:**

**C. House Commemorative Resolutions:**

**C. RES. NO. 23-1**

To honor and commend the late Honorable Jacinta Matagolai Kaipat 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.

**Prefiled by: REP. ROY C. A. ADA** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, Malcom J. Omar, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai*)

**D. House Concurrent Resolutions:**

**6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR – (None)**

**7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS**

SEN. COMM. 23-3: (2/14/2023) Transmitting for House action S. J. R. NO. 22-02, entitled, “*Requesting Governor Arnold I. Palacios to task the Division of Revenue and Taxation to collect all Business Gross Revenue Tax owed the Commonwealth government.*”, which was adopted by the Senate on February 14, 2023. [*For action*]

**8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS – (None)**

**9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH – (None)**

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

**11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS**

MISC. COMM. 23-13: (3/1/2023) From the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) re: *MPLT Interim Administrative Report*. [*For info*]

**12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (5)**

**S. C. R. No. 23-1:** Reporting on H. B. No. 23-11, entitled: “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.” *Your House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 23-11 in its current form.*

**S. C. R. No. 23-2:** Reporting on JUD. BR. COMM. 23-1: Proposed NMI Rules of Guardianship Procedure. [*Submitted 1/24/2023; Deadline: 3/25/2023*] *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House approve the “Proposed NMI Rules of Guardianship Procedure”.*

**S. C. R. No. 23-3:** Reporting on H. B. No. 23-13, entitled: “To amend the Crimes and Criminal Procedure Code definitions of dangerous weapon and serious bodily injury.” *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 23-13 in its current form.*

**S. C. R. No. 23-4:** Reporting on H. B. No. 23-14 entitled: “To amend the punishment for the crime of vandalism to include the option of confinement.” *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 23-14, HS1.*

**S. C. R. No. 23-5:** Reporting on H. B. No. 23-17 entitled: “To provide clarity relative to the crime of promoting prison contraband, or otherwise known as the Contraband Reform Act of 2023; and for other purposes.” *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 23-17, HS1.*

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

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (None)**

**15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR**

Resolution	Subject	Action

**16. BILL CALENDAR**

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action

**17. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**18. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(ADJOURNMENT)**

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***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:**

H. L. B. No. 23-4: To amend 10 CMC §14106 to amend the Rota Resident Identification Card fee; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023.

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***Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on  
February 15, 2023:***

H. Res. No. 23-4: To honorably commend and pay just tribute to the life and legacy of the late Honorable Edward DLG Pangelinan for his relentless dedication and countless contributions in the formation and continued existence of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Introduced by Representatives Marissa R. Flores, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Thomas J. DLC. Manglona, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcom J. Omar, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul (for themselves, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R.S. Aldan, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Edwin K. Propst, and Patrick H. San Nicolas) on February 15, 2023; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.