



House of Representatives

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

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SAIPAN, MP 96950

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March 10, 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 Fifth Day, First Regular Session
Date and Time: Monday, March 13, 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)

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 Monday, March 13, 2023.

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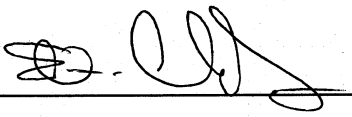
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building
P. O. BOX 500586
Saipan, MP 96950

EDMUND SABLAN VILLAGOMEZ
SPEAKER

MEMORANDUM

DATE : 09 March 2023
TO : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS
FROM : Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez 
SUBJECT : Call for Session, 5th Day, 1st Regular Session

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the **5th Day, 1st Regular Session for Monday, 13 March 2023 at 2:00 p.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
5th Day, First Regular Session	Monday, March 13, 2023	2:00 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Moment of Silence

- ROLL CALL**
- PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- ADOPTION OF JOURNALS** – (None)
- INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

A. House Bills:

H. B. No. 23-30

To impose an additional five percent (5%) on any licensed construction contractor that earns a yearly gross revenue of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) or more for a period of three years.

Prefiled by: REP. ROMAN C. BENAVENTE of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Julie M. A. Ogo, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

B. House Local Bills:

C. House Legislative Initiatives:

- INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

A. House Resolutions:

B. House Joint Resolutions:

C. *House Commemorative Resolutions:*

D. *House Concurrent Resolutions:*

H. C. R. No. 23-1

To approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC, Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2023, effective upon the passage of this resolution, and ending on September 30, 2023 to reflect proposed revisions to the FY 2023 Annual Appropriations Act enacted as Public Law 22-22.

Prefiled by: REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez*)

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR – (None)

7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

SEN. COMM. 23-4: (3/9/2023) Returning H. B. No. 23-1, entitled, *“To amend 7 CMC §4101 to lower the interest rate of civil money judgments from nine percent (9%) to three percent (3%).”*, which was passed by the Senate without amendments on March 9, 2023. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 23-5: (3/9/2023) Returning H. B. No. 23-6, entitled, *“To amend 4 CMC § 8112 to prioritize net metering to include public libraries; and for other purposes.”*, which was passed by the Senate without amendments on March 9, 2023. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 23-6: (3/9/2023) Returning H. B. No. 23-10, HD1, entitled, *“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”.*, which was passed by the Senate without amendments on March 9, 2023. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 23-7: (3/9/2023) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 23-09, entitled, *“To repeal and reenact 1 CMC § 2502 to clarify the rank and file at the Department of Public Safety; and for other purposes.”*, which was passed by the Senate on March 9, 2023. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 23-8: (3/9/2023) Transmitting for House action S. J. R. NO. 23-01, entitled, *“Requesting Governor Arnold I. Palacios to re-assess the exempt status of the CNMI in participating in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprises pertaining to the Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs.”*, which was adopted by the Senate on March 9, 2023. [**For action**]

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 23-27: (3/6/2023) From Representative Marissa R. Flores informing the Speaker that she will be out of the Commonwealth on official business beginning March 19, 2023 and returning March 26, 2023 and request to be excused from any and all official functions during her absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-28: (3/7/2023) From Representative Angelo A. Camacho informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business beginning March 19, 2023 and returning March 26, 2023 and request to be excused from any and all official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH – (None)

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES – (None)

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 23-16: (3/8/2023) Certification of election of the incoming 19th CNMI Youth Congress. [*For info*]

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (None)

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)

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. 23-5: To amend the Rota Dog Control Act under Title 10, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 2, of the Commonwealth Code. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on March 9, 2023.

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on March 9, 2023:

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. Introduced 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) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

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. Introduced 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, Julie M.A. Ogo, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H. B. NO. 23-20: To amend the quorum and removal of members provisions for the State Board of Education; and for other purposes. Introduced 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) on March 9, 2023; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

H. B. NO. 23-21: To amend the compensation of the CNMI Cannabis Commission members. Introduced 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, Julie M.A. Ogo, Malcom J. Omar, and Edwin K. Propst) March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Cannabis and to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*, Representatives Julie M.A. Ogo, Edmund S. Villagomez and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai) March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

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. Introduced by REP. MALCOM J. OMAR of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*, Representative Julie M.A. Ogo) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Health and Welfare.

H. B. NO. 23-24: To provide an affirmative defense against drug possession charges in the case of an overdose. Introduced by REP. MALCOM J. OMAR of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 23-25: To amend certain provisions of the CNMI Good Samaritan Act [7 CMC § 2801 *et seq.*]; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. MALCOM J. OMAR of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Health and Welfare.

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. Introduced by REP. BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Roman C. Benavente, Manny G. T. Castro, Marissa R. Flores, Julie M.A. Ogo, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED-3/9/2023] H. B. NO. 23-27: To ensure that the expenditure authority designated in the Annual Appropriation Act retains exclusive control over all funds appropriated to it. Introduced by REP. JOSEPH A. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means and to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[ADDED-3/9/2023] H. B. NO. 23-28: To clarify the process for appropriation of administrative expenses of the Department of Public Lands and timely transfer of funds to Marianas Public Land Trust. Introduced by REP. ANGELO A. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Diego V. F. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Malcom J. Omar, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED-3/9/2023] H. B. NO. 23-29: To establish a reward for recovery of public funds and a mechanism for the payment of rewards for disclosures leading to the recovery of public funds; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

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. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on March 9, 2023.

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. Introduced by REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED 3/9/2023] H. L. B. NO. 23-7: To appropriate \$65,000 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302) and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on March 9, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED 3/9/2023] H. L. B. NO. 23-8: To appropriate \$1,000,000.00 of the dividends collected by the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority (CEDA) from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC); and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R.S. Aldan, 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, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul)

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 8th as International Women's Day. Introduced by REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R.S. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, 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, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcom J. Omar, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul) on March 9, 2023; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

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. Introduced 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, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcom J. Omar, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on March 9, 2023; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.