

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building Capitol Hill P.O. Box 500586 Saipan, MP 96950 cnmileg.net

Linda B. Muña, MPA House Clerk Office of the House Clerk Telephone: 670.664.8848 Facsimile: 670.664.8849

munal@cnmileg.net

HC Document Control No. 13

8/26/2025

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-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will convene the following open and public meeting:

Meeting: House of Representatives Second Day, Second Regular Session

Date and Time: Friday, August 29, 2025, at 10:00 AM

Location: House Chamber, Vice Speaker 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 Friday, August 29, 2025.

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

SAPLRO: ac.shai@cnmi.gov

Marianas CableVision: mbirmingham@saipan.com
KCNM/KZMI Radio Station: KZMI-FM@pticom.com

KSPN NEWS: lannie@kspn2.com

Marianas Variety News: editor@mvariety.com
KKMP Radio Station: enmiradio@gmail.com

Guam Business magazine/Marianas Business Journal: businesseditor@glimpsesofguam.com

THE NORTHER VIEW OF THE VIEW O

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building P. O. BOX 500586 Saipan, MP 96950

EDMUND SABLAN VILLAGOMEZ SPEAKER

MEMORANDUM

DATE

: 20 August 2025

TO

: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM

: Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez

SUBJECT

: Call for Session, 2nd Day, 2nd Regular Session

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the 2nd Day, 2nd Regular Session for Friday, 29 August 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President House Clerk LB Director SAPLR Media

TELEPHONE NO.: 670 664.8971/72

FACSIMILE NO.: 670.664.8900

EMAIL: rep.evillagomez@cnmileg.net

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
2 ND Day, Second Regular Session	Friday, August 29, 2025	10:00 a.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Moment of Silence

1. ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. ADOPTION OF JOURNALS – (1)

First Day, Fifth Special Session Journal – July 31, 2025

4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

A. House Bills:

H. B. No. 24-53

To amend 1 CMC § 7831 to exempt the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) from the mandatory one percent (1%) Public Auditor Fee, forgive all arrears related to such fee, and establish a cost-based audit recovery system with mandatory reporting and penalties for noncompliance; and for other purposes.

Prefiled by: REP. VINCENT R. ALDAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself)

H. B. No. 24-54

To increase the number of military leave hours available to CNMI government employees and to broaden eligibility for its use.

Prefiled by: REP. DANIEL I. AQUINO JR. of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Diego V. F. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DlC. Manglona, Malcolm J. Omar, John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

H. B. No. 24-55

To amend the penalties for illegally parking in spaces designated for persons with disabilities by strengthening and enforcing clear penalties for violation and repeat offenses and by ensuring accessible parking for persons with disabilities; and for other such purposes.

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

H. B. No. 24-56

To establish the CNMI Air Service Development Matching Fund to support federal air service development grants, such as the Small Community Air Service Development Program, and to provide procedures and responsibilities related to the use of the Fund.

Prefiled by: REP. ANGELO A. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Roman C. Benavente, Marissa R. Flores, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

B. House Local Bills:

H. L. B. No. 24-22

To rename a portion of Lana Drive in the village of As Lito, Precinct I, to "Diego T. Benavente Drive" in honor of the Honorable Diego Tenorio Benavente, former Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, and long-serving public servant of the Commonwealth.

Prefiled by: REP(S). VINCENT R. ALDAN, ROMAN C. BENAVENTE, DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO, JOSEPH A. FLORES, RAYMOND U. PALACIOS of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for themselves, Representative Edmund S. Villagomez)

H. L. B. No. 24-23

To establish the Rota Cultural Heritage and Education Tour Act, for other purposes. **Prefiled by: REP. JULIE M. A. OGO** of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*)

C. House Legislative Initiatives:

5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

- **A.** House Resolutions:
- **B.** House Joint Resolutions:
- *C.* House Commemorative Resolutions:
- **D.** House Concurrent Resolutions:

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

GOV. COMM. 24-53: **Executive Order 2025-003** – Clarifying Roles and Responsibilities within the Single Audit Committee. [Submitted 8/15/2025]

7. **SENATE COMMUNICATIONS** – (None)

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

Hse. Comm. 24-50: (8/11/2025) From Representative Vincent R. Aldan, Chair of the House Standing Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I), informing the Speaker of the appointment of Representative Ralph N. Yumul as Vice Chair of the T&I Committee. [For info]

Hse. Comm. 24-51: (8/15/2025) From Representative Elias M. Rangamar, informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal leave from August 18, 2025, through September 8, 2025, and requesting to be excused from all legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, and committee meetings during this period. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 24-52: (8/18/2025) From Representative Julie M. A. Ogo, informing the Speaker that she will be out of the Commonwealth on official business beginning August 26, 2025, with her return date to be determined, and requesting to be excused from all official functions during this period. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 24-53: (8/19/2025) From Representative Raymond U. Palacios, informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal leave from August 26, 2025, through September 6, 2025, and requesting to be excused from any official meetings or sessions, during this period. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 24-54: (8/19/2025) From Representative Roman C. Benavente, Chair of the Education Committee, informing the House of the appointment of Representative Daniel I. Aquino, Jr. as a member of the Education Committee. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 24-55: (8/21/2025) From Representative Joseph A. Flores informing the Speaker of his absence from the Commonwealth on personal leave from August 22, 2025 to September 15, 2025, and requesting to be excused from scheduled meetings or sessions during this period. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 24-56: (8/22/2025) From Representative Ralph N. Yumul, Chairman, House Standing Committee on Gaming, submitting notice of rescission of House Communication No. 24-44. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 24-57: (8/22/2025) Representative Malcolm J. Omar informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from August 25, 2025—August 29, 2025, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings, and official functions, during this period. [For info]

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

JUD. BR. COMM. 24-5: (8/13/2025) Judiciary comments on H. B. No. 24-46, entitled, (*To Define and Identify General Revenues and approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9 (a) of the CNMI Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2026 and make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 2026; and for other purposes.) and H. B. No. 24-22, entitled, (<i>To repeal and reenact the Justice Center Fund Revolving Account.*) [For info]

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-16: (8/20/2025) From Sixto K. Igisomar, Secretary of the Department Public Lands, submitting a supplemental notice of additional land compensation claims for payment totaling \$252,000.08. Requests the additional judgement be included in the pending appropriation request for judgements against the Commonwealth. [For info]

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 24-49: (8/19/2025) From the Commonwealth Zoning Board, Saipan Zoning Office re: Notice of Rezone/Change in Zoning District Boundaries on the Official Zoning Map From

Village Commercial (VC) and Village Residential (VR) to Mixed Commercial (MC) zoning district. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-50: (8/21/2025) Correspondence from Mr. Ambrose M. Bennet, MA, re: Complaint & Request for Oversight Hearing on Cannabis & Casino Commission. [For info]

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (9)

- **S. C. R. No. 24-19:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-16, entitled: "To prioritize kinship placement for children in protective custody by requiring the Division of Youth Services identify and assess suitable kinship caregivers within 24 hours of removing a child from their home, mandating expedited judicial review of kinship placement recommendations, and prohibiting the placement of such children in confinement facilities." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-16 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-20:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-35, entitled: "To amend certain provisions of the CNMI Good Samaritan Act [7 CMC § 2801 et seq.]; and for other purposes." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-35 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-21:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-39, entitled: "To establish Treatment Program Enforcement Officers within the Judiciary to carry out enforcement, supervision, and monitoring functions essential to the success of court-supervised treatment programs, and to ensure that these officers are fully recognized as law enforcement personnel under Commonwealth law." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-39 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-22:** Reporting on Jud. Br. Comm. 24-3: Proposed NMI Code of Judicial Conduct. *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House disapprove the "Proposed NMI Code of Judicial Conduct."*.
- **S. C. R. No. 24-23:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-5, entitled: "To establish provisions for jaywalking; 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. 24-5, HD1*.
- **S. C. R. No. 24-24:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-10, entitled: "To establish a change of name legal procedure in the CNMI." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-10 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-25:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-26, entitled: "To amend the crime of child abuse." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-26 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-26:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-45, entitled: "To re-appropriate Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) under Public Law No. 21-10, Section 2(G), for operational expenses of the Office of the Mayor of the Municipality of Rota." *Your House Committee on Ways and Means recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-45 in its current form.*

S. C. R. No. 24-27: Reporting on H. B. No. 24-50, entitled: "To authorize a loan between the Commonwealth Government and the Marianas Public Land Trust in the amount of \$29,000,000 and authorize the Marianas Public Land Trust to withhold and retain net annual distributable income starting Fiscal Year 2026 for repayment and security of the loan." Your House Committee on Ways and Means recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-50 in its current form.

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

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (None)

15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Resolution	Subject	Action
H. J. R. No. 24-7	A House Joint Resolution to encourage the Honorable David M. Apatang, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to declare a Proactive Resilience Emergency Declaration to protect the Commonwealth's renewable energy future in light of the approaching federal deadline under the 2025 "Big Beautiful Budget" Act (BBB); and urging all agencies to fast-tract renewable energy projects before the opportunity expires.	
H. C. R. No. 24-2, SS1 [see SEN. COMM. 24-49]	A House Concurrent Resolution to approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as identified under Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution, as amended, and Title 1, Division 7, of the Commonwealth Code, for Fiscal Year 2026, beginning October 1, 2025, and ending on September 30, 2026.	

16. BILL CALENDAR

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action
H. B. No. 24-9	A Bill for an Act to amend 4 CMC § 1803 by reallocating a portion of the Hotel Occupancy Tax received by the Marianas Visitors Authority to the Division of Parks and Recreation to support beautification efforts. [No public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of March 11, 2025; July 14, 2025 and August 15, 2025]	
H. B. No. 24-22	A Bill for an Act to repeal and reenact the Justice Center Fund Revolving Account. [Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of August 15, 2025]	
H. B. No. 24-38	A Bill for an Act To establish a dedicated CNMI Emergency Reserve Fund ("Rainy Day Fund") with annual mandatory deposits and procedures for fund disbursement in times of declared emergency, while ensuring fiscal accountability. [No public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of July 14, 2025 and August 15, 2025]	

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:

Trupp I reger array Day.

I HIKD LEGISLATIVE I	JAY:		

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on August 15, 2025:

H. B. No. 24-45: To re-appropriate Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) under Public Law No. 21-10, Section 2(G), for operational expenses of the Office of the Mayor of the Municipality of Rota. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (for herself) on August 15, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H. B. No. 24-46: To Define and Identify General Revenues and approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9 (a) of the CNMI Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2026 and make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 2026; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, Elias J.M. Rangamar, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on August 15, 2025 and was moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

- H. B. No. 24-47: To realign the authority and duties of the CNMI Department of Labor; and for the other purposes. Introduced by REP. DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Marissa R. Flores, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on August 15, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.
- H. B. No. 24-48: To adjust the 1992 salary cap of executive directors to a 2025 inflation-equivalent amount. Introduced by REP. ANGELO A. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*) on August 15, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
- H. B. No. 24-49: To establish the CNMI Next/Gen 911 Telephone Communications System within the CNMI; and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Malcolm J. Omar of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*) on August 15, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.
- H. B. No. 24-50: To authorize a loan between the Commonwealth Government and the Marianas Public Land Trust in the amount of \$29,000,000 and authorize the Marianas Public Land Trust to withhold and retain net annual distributable income starting Fiscal Year 2026 for repayment and security of the loan. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (for himself) on August 15, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED-8/15/2025] H. B. No. 24-51: To establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands & Natural Resources; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*) on August 15, 2025. Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means on August 18, 2025.

House of Representatives Agenda Twenty-Fourth Legislature Second Day, Second Regular Session, 2025 Friday, August 29, 2025 Page 7

[ADDED-8/15/2025] H. B. No. 24-52: An Act to strengthen currect domestic and family violence laws to ensure the protections of women and children and to recognize and penalize digital and electronic harassment as acts of domestic and family violence; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for herself, Representative Julie M.A. Ogo) on August 15, 2025. Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations on August 18, 2025.

[ADDED-8/15/2025] H. J. R. No. 24-7: To encourage the Honorable David M. Apatang, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to declare a Proactive Resilience Emergency Declaration to protect the Commonwealth's renewable energy future in light of the approaching federal deadline under the 2025 "Big Beautiful Budget" Act (BBB); and urging all agencies to fast-tract renewable energy projects before the opportunity expires. Introduced by REP. VINCENT R. ALDAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself, Representatives Roman C. Benavente, Joel C. Camacho, and Elias J.M. Rangamar; Roy C.A. Ada, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DlC. Manglona, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomezand Ralph N. Yumul) on August 15, 2025 and subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.