

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWELFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2000

TWELFTH DAY

February 29, 2000

The House of Representatives of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened in its Twelfth Day, First Regular Session on Tuesday, February 29, 2000, at 11:29 a.m. in the House Chamber, Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Honorable Benigno R. Fitial, Speaker of the House, presided.

A moment of silence was observed.

In accordance with Rule XIII, § 2(a), all eighteen members were present.

Speaker Fitial: A quorum is duly constituted for the Twelfth Day of our First Regular Session.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of the Ninth and Tenth Days, First Regular Session journals.

The motion was seconded.

Ninth and Tenth Days, First Regular Session (02/25-26/00)

There was no discussion raised. The motion to adopt the Ninth and Tenth Days, First Regular Session journals was carried by voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

H. B. NO. 12-100: A Bill for an Act to reappropriate fund balances from Public Law 11-67; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. David M. Apatang and one other
Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. NO. 12-101: A Bill for an Act to establish an account for the deposit of ambulance fees; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Jesus T. Attao
Referred to: Committees on Health and Welfare and Ways and Means

H. B. NO. 12-102: A Bill for an Act to establish a special scholarship program for hard-to-fill positions; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Jesus T. Attao
Referred to: Committee on Education

H. B. NO. 12-103: A Bill for an Act to create the Business License Application Task Force to formulate a plan for a One-Stop Business License Center; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. William S. Torres and five others
Referred to: Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. NO. 12-104: A Bill for an Act to create the Building Permit Application Task Force to formulate a plan for a One-Stop Building Permit Center; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. William S. Torres
Referred to: Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. NO. 12-105: A Bill for an Act to require the Division of Public Lands to identify all public lands which are being encroached upon the private interests, and to establish appropriate encroachment fees.

Offered by: Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho and five others
Referred to: Committee on Natural Resources

H. B. NO. 12-106: A Bill for an Act to amend Title 3 section 4437(c) of the Commonwealth Code.

Offered by: Rep. Dino M Jones
Referred to: Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. NO. 12-107: A Bill for an Act to define the word “sovereignty” as used in Section 101 of the Covenant and the term “local self-government” as used in Section 103 of the Covenant; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Dino M. Jones
Referred to: Committee on Federal and Foreign Relations

H. B. NO. 12-108: A Bill for an Act to establish policies and procedures for the presentation and adoption of agreements and proceedings resulting from formal consultations under Section 902 of the Covenant, entered into between the Special Representatives of the CNMI Governor and the U.S. President; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Dino M. Jones

Referred to: Committee on Federal and Foreign Relations

H. B. NO. 12-109: A Bill for an Act to authorize the CNMI Retirement Board to allow two spouse working families to either pay in advance retirement contribution by one spouse of transfer service credit from one spouse to another up to a maximum of (5) years; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Dino M. Jones

Referred to: Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. NO. 12-110: A Bill for an Act to form a corporation of CNMI descent; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Dino M. Jones

Referred to: Committee on Commerce and Tourism

H. B. NO. 12-111: A Bill for an Act to authorize the appropriation of Two Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$2,350,000) for construction of two new entrance/exit roads at Kagman; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho and four others

Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

H. J. R. NO. 12-5: A House Joint Resolution to consider Rota Island for the Unkai Distillery Company to establish a Shochu plant.

Offered by: Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.

Referred to: Committee on Commerce and Tourism

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

None

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

None

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

None

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

None

BILL CALENDAR

None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair recognized Rep. Jones.

Chairman Jones: Reminder to all Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee members that we will be meeting tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. in Representative Ichihara's Conference Room.

The Chair recognized Rep. Peter.

Chairperson Peter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Reminder, public hearing at 1:30 p.m. and also, I'm asking the Health and Welfare Committee members to please meet at my office at one o'clock before we proceed to the 1:30 p.m. public hearing. I also have one more, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Proceed.

Chairperson Peter: Thank you. I would like to announce that I received the letter you referred to the Committee about the request of the Red Cross on their 14th Annual Walk-A-Thon for Saturday, March 18, urging us to encourage our employees to participate in this Annual Walk-A-Thon. I would like to let the members know that I have forms for our staff that would like to join this Walk-A-Thon, please see Bobbie. Ask your staff to please, come and get a form and participate. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Rep. Rosiky Camacho.

Chairman Rosiky Camacho: Mr. Speaker, announcement for Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee meeting on March 6, at 8:00 a.m., at Representative Ichihara's Conference Room. Agenda would be the Telecommunication Commission Act on Article 1, Article 2, and Article 3 will be discussed to expedite the bills. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Further announcement? If none, I would like to announce that tomorrow before the session, I would like to ask everybody to come tomorrow with their coat and tie because the group picture that was taken during the day of our Inauguration was not complete and it is very gettable to have an incomplete picture in our office. Anyway, with your indulgence, if everybody could come tomorrow dressed up like on January 10th, the group picture will be taken tomorrow before the session. Representative Pangelinan?

Rep. Pangelinan: I guess with the present technology, whoever was missing, that person's picture should be taken and superimpose it.

Speaker Fitial: With your indulgence again, before the session tomorrow, there will be a group picture taken. Floor Leader, recognized.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, move to recess until tomorrow afternoon at 1:30.

Chairman Jones: Mr. Speaker, since there is going to be a session at 1:30 p.m., I am moving my committee meeting after the session.

Speaker Fitial: So noted.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

The House recessed 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan P. Kaipat, Journal Clerk
House of Representatives