

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

TWENTY-SECOND DAY

March 11, 2000

The House of Representatives of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened in its Twenty-Second Day, First Regular Session, on Saturday, March 11, 2000, at 10:45 a.m. in Mama'ti Café, Sunset Villa, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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

A moment of silent was observed.

In accordance with Rule XIII, Section 2(a), eleven members were present; Representatives Jesus T. Attao, Diego T. Benavente, Heinz S. Hofschneider, Dino M. Jones, Thomas B. Pangelinan, Stanley T. Torres, and William S. Torres were absent.

Speaker Fitial: A quorum is duly constituted for the Twenty-Second Day of our First Regular Session. Representatives Diego T. Benavente, Dino M. Jones and William S. Torres are excused.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of the 21st Day, First Regular Session journal

The motion was seconded.

21st Day, First Regular Session (3/10/00)

There was no discussion raised. The motion to adopt the 21st Day, First Regular Session journal was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The 21st Day journal is adopted.

PREFILED AND INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

None

PREFILED AND INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

None

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

None

SENATES COMMUNICATIONS

None

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

None

OTHERS COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

None

BILL CALENDAR

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I move for the passage on Second and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-39, Committee Substitute 1.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I wish to introduce House Bill No. 12-39, Committee Substitute 2, based on the amendment from the previous House Bill. Mr. Speaker, every one has a copy. Just a note, Mr. Speaker, on page 4, line item 19, after the word “shall” “g”, I guess the computer jump with the “g” so let it be known as a typo error.

Speaker Fitial: Can we have a motion first so that we can deliberate on the motion?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, so move for the introduction of House Bill No. 12-39, as C. S. 2.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Representative Apatang?

Rep. Apatang: Mr. Speaker, on page 7, line item 5, I just wonder what happened to the cap of 15,700?

Speaker Fitial: Your question is --?

Rep. Apatang: The number of 15,700 some --?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader, do you wish to respond?

Floor Leader Babauta: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is on page 6, line 21, Mr. Speaker, starting from line 20, “(a) There is imposed on the garment industry in the Commonwealth a cap of not more than 15,727...” Ready.

Speaker Fitial: No further discussion? We will now be voting on the motion to amend House Bill No. 12-39, Committee Substitute 1, with Committee Substitute 2. It is only a motion to adopt the amendment offered by the Floor Leader.

The motion to adopt the Floor Amendment offered by the Floor Leader, on House Bill No. 12-39, C. S. 1, was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. We will now be entertaining the motion for the passage of House Bill No. 12-39, Committee Substitute 2. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: I now move for the passage on Second and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-39, C. S. 2.

The motion was seconded.

H. B. NO. 12-39, C.S.2: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REFORM THE LABOR AND BUSINESS LAW OF THE COMMONWEALTH; AND FOR OTHE PURPOSES.

There was no discussion raised.

The Status Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-39, C. S. 2, on Second and Final Reading as follows:

Rep. Martin B. Ada	yes
Rep. David M. Apatang	yes
Rep. Jesus T. Attao	absent
Rep. Oscar M. Babauta	yes
Rep. Diego T. Benavente	excused
Rep. Antonio M. Camacho	yes
Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho	yes
Rep. Florencio T. DLGuerrero	yes
Rep. Heinz S. Hofscheider	absent
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	yes
Rep. Dino M. Jones	excused
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	yes
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	yes
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	absent
Rep. Maria “Malua” T. Peter	yes
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	absent
Rep. William S. Torres	excused
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-39, Committee Substitute 2, passes the House on Second and Final Reading. Floor Leader, recognized.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, at the request of several members, and because of the Chairman on Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations is not present

this morning the members requested that we refer House Bill No. 12-73 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations to incorporate amendments that would be offered by a few of the members as discussed yesterday. So, move, Mr. Speaker.

There was no objection raised.

Speaker Fitial: So ordered. House Bill No. 12-73 is now referred back to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations for further operations.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform the members that our next session will be on Monday at two o'clock in Tinian.

Speaker Fitial: I would like to respectfully ask the Clerk to advise those members who are absent today that House plans a session in Tinian on Monday. Further Announcement? Representative Peter?

Chairwoman Peter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to remind Health and Welfare members that our Public Hearing is on Tuesday afternoon at 1:30, and the Committee will meet at one o'clock, and before that meeting, I am asking them to please review the Bill and the comments that came in on that particular Bill and be prepared for the Public Hearing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Further Announcement? Representative Ichihara?

Chairwoman Ichihara: The Education Committee still meets on Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Speaker Fitial: Further Announcement? I would like to announce that the trip to Washington is now scheduled for April 6. So, I would like to remind everybody who is still interested in that trip to make all the necessary provisions, preparation and reservation. I would like to report that.

Floor Leader Babauta: April 6?

Speaker Fitial: It sets on April 6. We already have a full scheduled of meetings and other activities and we are all set for these basic. Like I mentioned yesterday, Chairman Don Young, had already sent his official letter in his station to meet with him and his

Committee and staffs upon our arrival. Chairman Norman Palacios, although he did not indicated by he wishes to make an announcement today, regarding the March 16, occasion when we will be meeting with the dignitaries from Japan parliament and the business association will be arriving here on the 16th. Chairman Palacios?

Rep. Palacios: (inaudible)

Speaker Fitial: Just an information with the involvement of the members.

Rep. Palacios: --Will be arriving on 2:20 p.m. and upon the arrival we will be having the reception at the Speaker House at 6:30 p.m. and requesting all the members to be present. We will be having the reception at the Speaker's House and as well as the members schedules to –

Chairwoman Peter: Mr. Speaker, if I may ask, to be there only or to the Airport since he announce the arrival time –

Rep. Palacios: To the Airport and the reception at the Speaker's House. The Governor is also giving a reception for the following day – and I don't know if we are invited.

Speaker Fitial: Actually, since Representative Peter has requested to know the reception at the Airport, I thought you have done in your plan to appoint Representative Peter to chair the reception at the Airport.

Rep. Palacios: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to appoint Representatives Peter and Ichihara to be in the welcoming.

Speaker Fitial: For the recess motion, I now recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: I move to recess until Monday at 2:00 p.m. on the island of Tinian.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

The House recessed at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan P. Kaipat, Journal Clerk
House of Representatives