

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

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY

March 14, 2000

The House of Representatives of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened in its Twenty-Fourth Day, First Regular Session, on Tuesday, March 14, 2000, at 1:55 p.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 Twenty-Fourth Day of our First Regular Session.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of the 22nd Day, First Regular Session journal.

The motion was seconded.

22nd Day, First Regular Session (3/11/00)

There was no discussion raised. The motion to adopt the 22nd Day, First Regular Session journal was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The 22nd Day journal is adopted.

PREFILED AND INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

H. B. NO. 12-138: A Bill for an Act to amend 4 CMC, Section 1403 (a), to lower the tax on gasoline; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho and four others
Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. NO. 12-139: A Bill for an Act to amend the Public School System Capital Improvement Projects Appropriation Act of 1999 (Public Law 11-89); and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara
Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. NO. 12-140: A Bill for an Act to establish a Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Program; to amend 3 CMC Section 1316(d); to vacate Executive Order 94-3, Section 211 (a)(b)(c); and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara and three others
Referred to: Committee on Education

H. B. NO. 12-141: A Bill for an Act to provide for the administration and compensation of Municipal Councils, and its members on the islands of Saipan and Northern Islands, Rota, and Tinian and to amend certain provisions of 1 CMC, Division 1, Chapter 4; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Oscar M. Babauta (By request)
Referred to: Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. NO. 12-142: A Bill for an Act to enshrine pertinent sections of the Covenant and the CNMI Constitution relative to establishing a registry for Persons of the Northern Marianas Descent; and for other purposes.

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

PREFILED AND INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

H. R. NO. 12-32: A House Resolution requesting the Office of the Attorney General and the Northern Marianas Bar Association to investigate immediately whether Bruce Lee Jorgensen is practicing law in Commonwealth courts without a license or proper authority; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Benigno R. Fitial

Rep. Attao: Mr. Speaker, can we include that on today's Resolution Calendar for adoption?

Speaker Fitial: If there is no objection, there's a request by Representative Attao to place the Resolution I just introduced on today's Resolution Calendar for consideration.

There was no objection raised.

Speaker Fitial: So ordered.

H. R. NO. 12-33: A House Resolution to encourage the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth Health Center and the Public School System to include Environmental Friendly Products as part of their maintenance program.

Offered by: Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho
Referred to: Committee on Health and Welfare

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

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of Standing Committee Report No. 12-49, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 12-6; Standing Committee Report No. 12-50, reference to House Bill No. 12-116; Standing Committee Report No. 12-51, reference to House Resolution No. 12-23; and Standing Committee Report No. 12-52, reference to House Resolution No. 12-25.

The motion was seconded.

S. C. R. NO. 12-49: Reporting on House Joint Resolution No. 12-6, entitled, “A House Joint Resolution supporting the Governor’s petition to the U.S. Federal Communications Commission to deny the application for Consent to Transfer to FCC Licenses and Authorizations of GTE Corporation and Bell Atlantic Corporation.” *Your Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications recommends its adoption.*

S. C. R. NO. 12-50: Reporting on House Bill No. 12-116, entitled, “A Bill for an Act to repeal and reenact Section 6(c)(4) of Public Law 11-79; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Ways and Means recommends passage of the Bill in the form of H.B. No. 12-116, H.D.1.*

S. C. R. NO. 12-51: Reporting on House Resolution No. 12-23, entitled, “A House Resolution to request the Governor to create a permanent ‘Beautification Group’ with the task of planting flowers and trees on points of entry and exit in the Commonwealth, and maintaining such areas.” *Your Committee on Health and Welfare recommends its adoption.*

S. C. R. NO. 12-52: Reporting on House Resolution No. 12-25, entitled, “A House Resolution expressing its heartfelt appreciation for the dedication, hard work and tremendous accomplishments of the employees of the Mayor of Saipan and the Honorable Jose C. Sablan, Mayor of Saipan.” *Your Committee on Health and Welfare recommends its adoption.*

There was no discussion raised. The motion to adopt Standing Committee Report Nos.: 12-49, 12-50, 12-51, and 12-52 was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The four Standing Committee Reports are adopted.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader, suspension motion is in order for the Resolution that I just introduced.

Floor Leader Babauta: So move, Mr. Speaker.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Can we have a short recess while the Clerk is reproducing copies?

The House recessed at 2:03 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 2:07 p.m.

Speaker Fitial: We are back to the plenary session. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, thank you. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Joint Resolution No. 12-6.

Speaker Fitial: Can we have a suspension motion first, Floor Leader? We need to suspend the Rule to place it on the Calendar.

Floor Leader Babauta: 12-32, Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Yes.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my original motion and reinstate my motion to suspension Rule VII, Section 9 for the placement of House Resolution No. 12-32.

Speaker Fitial: Rule VII, Section 9 is the committee report requirement so it is in order since we don't have any committee report. Since we are placing this Resolution on

today's Calendar without a committee report then it is in order that we suspend the committee report requirement. So, can we just say that that motion is to suspend the committee report so we can place this without the committee report? Any discussion on that suspension motion?

There was no discussion raised. The motion to Suspend Rule VII, Section 9 to place House Resolution No. 12-32 the today's Calendar without a committee report was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Now, we need the suspension motion to act on it – actually we don't need such a motion because we already decided unanimous consent that we place this on today's Resolution Calendar. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Joint Resolution No. 12-6.

The motion was seconded.

H. J. R. NO. 12-6: A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOVERNOR'S PETITION TO THE U.S. FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO DENY THE APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO TRANSFER TO FCC LICENSES AND AUTHORIZATIONS OF GTE CORPORATION AND BELL ATLANTIC CORPORATION.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Representative Apatang?

Rep. Apatang: Mr. Speaker, maybe just a typo error on the Heading, on line 2, "Northern Marianas Bar Assocation" just correct that "Association".

Speaker Fitial: Are you on House Joint Resolution?

Rep. Apatang: House Resolution.

Speaker Fitial: We are on House Joint Resolution No. 12-6.

There was no discussion raised. The motion to adopt House Joint Resolution No. 12-6 was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: House Joint Resolution No. 12-6 is adopted. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, thank you. I move for the adoption of House Resolution Nos. 12-23, 12-25 and 12-32.

The motion was seconded.

H. R. NO. 12-23: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE GOVERNOR TO CREATE A PERMANENT 'BEAUTIFICATION GROUP' WITH THE TASK OF PLANTING

FLOWERS AND TREES ON POINTS OF ENTRY AND EXIT IN THE COMMONWEALTH, AND MAINTAINING SUCH AREAS.

H. R. NO. 12-25: A HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING ITS HEARTFELT APPRECIATION FOR THE DEDICATION, HARD WORK AND TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE MAYOR OF SAIPAN AND THE HONORABLE JOSE C. SABLAN, MAYOR OF SAIPAN.

H. R. NO. 12-32: A HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE NORTHERN MARIANAS BAR ASSOCIATION TO INVESTIGATE IMMEDIATELY WHETHER BRUCE LEE JORGENSEN IS PRACTICING LAW IN COMMONWEALTH COURTS WITHOUT A LICENSE OR PROPER AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

There was no discussion raised. The motion to adopt House Resolution Nos. 12-23, 12-25 and 12-32 was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: House Resolution Nos. 12-23, 12-25, and 12-32 are adopted.

BILL CALENDAR

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, thank you. I move for the suspension of Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 for the passage of House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 1.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Representative Attao?

Rep. Attao: May I ask the Floor Leader to make a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 11 for an Amendment on this same Bill?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Unless the Chair allows, Mr. Speaker, to amend as a subsidiary motion that would include suspension of Rule IX, Section 11.

Speaker Fitial: Can we go ahead and dispose of the suspension motion to allow this Bill to be acted upon on First and Final Reading first? The motion offered by the Floor Leader was to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 for House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 1, to be passed on First and Final Reading. It is just a suspension motion. So, can we dispose of that and then we suspend the motion to allow you to offer your amendment? Further discussion on the suspension motion? None?

The motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 1, was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. We are now going to entertain the motion for the passage. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, before I entertain a motion for the passage, I wish to move to suspend Rule IX, Section 11 for pertinent amendments to be incorporated before the passage occurs, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: You can do that or either we go that route, or just move for the passage and then we can offer amendments –

Rep. Hofschneider: I think we are out of order. I think we need to move for the passage then discussion and then a motion for an oral floor amendment.

Speaker Fitial: Okay. Let us effectuate a passage motion first, Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I recall my original motion and move for the passage on First and Final Reading, House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 1.

The motion was seconded.

H. B. NO. 12-116, H. D. 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT SECTION 6(c)(4) OF PUBLIC LAW 11-79; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Representative Attao?

Rep. Attao: If there is no objection, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a motion for the suspension of Rule IX, Section 11 so that my oral amendment can be incorporated into House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 1.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

There was a division on the floor during the voice vote on the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 11, for Representative Attao to make an oral amendment.

Speaker Fitial: Can we vote by just raising hands? We don't need to roll call. So, all those in favor of the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 11 to allow the oral amendment to be considered raise your hand. Seven raised their hands.

Rep. Attao: Mr. Speaker, let me clarify my amendment here. This particular Bill does not address anything with respect to the expenditure authority. Public Law 11-78, due to technical deficiencies, all the expenditure authorities were deleted and Public Law 11-79 did not address the expenditure authority. My amendment is to avoid delay on the project, incorporate the expenditure authority so that the provision will allow CUC and DPW to expend the \$2 million as called for in the Bill. It is not that I am going to take

One Million Dollars out of the Two Million Dollars. This is just to give authority to the respective department who has that particular project within their department. That is my amendment.

Speaker Fitial: Chairman Tony Camacho?

Rep. A. Camacho: Mr. Speaker, the amendment is only to move the amount of one construction project in Tanapag going to As Matusis –

Speaker Fitial: Let us not discuss the amendment because the motion is for the passage. We haven't –

Rep. A. Camacho: That is why we are voting “no” on the amendment because –

Rep. Attao: Mr. Speaker, let me just make myself very clear. Public Law 11-78 superceded by Public Law 11-79 because of technical deficiencies. And Public Law 11-78, the expended authority for CUC was line item vetoed that is why I am trying to revive the expenditure authority under Public Law 11-78 to be part of House Bill No. 12-116. Because even if we pass this and the Senate passes it, the Governor signs it, nobody can spend the \$2 million, that is why it is very important to put the expenditure authority.

Rep. A. Camacho: Public Law 11-79 did that.

Rep. Attao: No. Public Law 11-79 reference to Public Law 11-78, but in this case, CUC was line item vetoed. It was not incorporated in Public Law 11-79. So, what I am doing is reinstating the expenditure authority so that CUC and DPW can spend the fund that we are passing.

Rep. A. Camacho: So, no comments, Mr. Speaker. Too positive is better than none.

Rep. Jones: Point of information, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: State your point of information.

Rep. Jones: Representative Attao, what was the reason for deleting CUC from the expenditure authority?

Rep. Attao: There were some technical deficiencies under Public Law 11-78.

Rep. Jones: And what was that?

Rep. Attao: So, Public Law 11-79 reflect all Public Law 11-78 with the exception of CUC under the expenditure authority, it was line item vetoed.

Rep. Jones: What was the technical matter there?

Rep. Attao: That is the CIP under Public Law 11-78 so as Public Law 11-79.

Rep. Benavente: Mr. Speaker, short recess, so we can talk to our counsel about the –

Speaker Fitial: Short recess.

The House recessed at 2:18 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 2:29 p.m.

Speaker Fitial: We are back to the plenary session. We are still on the passage motion. Further discussion? Representative Attao?

Rep. Attao: Mr. Speaker, during our recess it was agreed that the amendment is to be offered by the Chairman on Ways and Means Committee, Representative Tony Camacho.

Speaker Fitial: Recognized.

Rep. A. Camacho: Mr. Speaker, I have a Floor Amendment to assist the author of the original Bill, to renumber “Section 2” and put a new “Section 2. To amend Section 7 (d) of Public Law 11-79 to replace “Tanapag” with “As Matuis”; and the first “Section 2” becomes “Section 3”, and “Section 3” becomes “Section 4”, and “Section 4” becomes Section 5.”

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Can we go back because we did not complete the process? We should effectuate a suspension motion to allow the oral amendment.

Rep. A. Camacho: I have a written amendment.

Speaker Fitial: Okay.

Rep. Benavente: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: State your point of order.

Rep. Benavente: I think before we call the recess, we were debating on the need to support the suspension of the Rules. I think you are right to dispose of the motion to suspend the Rules offered by Representative Attao. Ready.

Speaker Fitial: So, I am going to call the vote again for the suspension motion to allow the oral amendment.

Rep. Hofschneider: Pont of order, Mr. Speaker. I think we are in order if the mover of the motion recalls the motion.

Speaker Fitial: We need to make copies short recess again for copies.

The House recessed at 2:30 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 2:33 p.m.

Speaker Fitial: We are back to the plenary session. We have an amendment to be offered -- I believe we did not dispose of that motion. Can you restate your amendment?

Rep. A. Camacho: Mr. Speaker, I move to offer an Amendment to add a new “Section 2” and that Section 2 reads, “To amend Section 7 (b) of Public Law 11-79 to replace “Tanapag” with “As Matuis”; and the old “Section 2” becomes “Section 3”; and “Section 3” becomes “Section 4”; and “Section 4” becomes “Section 5.”

There was no discussion raised. The motion to adopt the Floor Amendment offered by Representative Antonio Camacho was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. We have now the main motion for the passage of House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 2. Further discussion? Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 2, on First and Final Reading as follows:

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

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-116, House Draft 2, passes the House on First and Final Reading.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Chair recognized Rep. Peter.

Chairwoman Peter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On February 29, the Committee on Health and Welfare held their public hearing on some Bills, including the Bill increasing the age to purchase tobacco. During that hearing we heard from Commonwealth Health Center witnesses about the tobacco settlement. The Chair then requested the Secretary to provide the Committee with information, documentations on the tobacco settlement. Mr. Speaker, we have yet to receive and in today's newspaper, on the front page, the Secretary mentioned here that he is working closely with the Legislature on the legislation that will help fund or request for \$8 million funding. I wonder who he is working with? Is it the local Legislature or the U.S. Legislature, somewhere? If the Secretary is working with the local Legislature, I would like to know who from the Legislature he is working with?

Speaker Fitial: No debate.

Rep. Hofschneider: No debate. Mr. Speaker, I have been keeping track of the settlement and a legislation is forthcoming on establishing the need at stake to establish that particular settlement amount for the purposes stipulated in the Federal Act.

Speaker Fitial: Further Miscellaneous? Representative Pangelinan?

Rep. Pangelinan: Mr. Speaker, this concerns my House Bill No. 12-65, "The Scuba Diving Act". The Marianas Variety, today, on page 5, reported, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, that tourism officials said, "Collection of fees and issuance of permits are inappropriate as this would only impose additional cost to tourist who only stayed in the CNMI for a couple of days." Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, no one in this Chamber is questioning the need to improve our tourism industry. It is the pipeline of life to our economy, it is just like the oxygen that flow to the regulator, to a scuba diver, a source of life. In my mind, it is a challenge to establish balance in role between tourism and our delicate marine life out there in our water. One must always remember that once our marine wildlife is left without major protection, major tourism will definitely decline heavily. Everyday, our marine environment is being damaged by pollution, such as that nightmare at Puerto Rico dump, oil spill, too many sea crafts, over fishing, and unrestricted, unlimited diving activities. From Grotto, Nikko, Plumeria, Aqua, Tanapag, all the way to PIC, to Obyan and Laulau Bay area, no matter how careful a diver is in the water this single activity will somewhat disturb our marine environments, step on the corals, breaks sea weeds, scare the fish away, yet, we take for granted that daily damages these water sports activities have in our sensitive marine environment, yet, every year,

millions of dollars are invested in promoting tourism, which I am totally in support of. The question I would like to ask is, how much funding have been appropriated to protect our marine environment? How much funding have been provided to study the heavily harm or damage environment by our pollution cause by our negligent, or/and our total support inability to protect our own fragile marine environment? The intention of my Bill, House Bill No. 12-65, is to charge a fee of only \$10.00 per year, 365 days a year and you can dive as many dives as you can in this given time period. The purpose of this minute fee, is for the Division of Fish and Wildlife to use that collected revenue for research, conducting studies of the status of our marine environment, restoration, restoring the wealth of our marine environment that were either damaged or destroyed, improvement of marine lives sanctuaries and that we have failed in some degree. A man is the number one enemy of his own environment, but a man is the only one that can save it. We have ignored for many years the critical need to be environmental conscientious individuals. We must know, and we should be, for the best interest of our people, our children, our children's children, and for the tourism industry. Let me remind each of you that one of the key elements of the Speaker's vision progress for the entire CNMI, one of the four E's, it's the Environment. If we do not initiate a legislation mandating the protection and conservation of our wildlife and their habitats, and our marine environment, then kiss tourism good-bye. The land and the sea in the Commonwealth is rightfully ours, it belongs to our people. If we do not protect and conserve its resources, who will? One of the most commonly heard saying that, it is better to try and fail than to fail to try. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Further deliberation under Miscellaneous? None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair recognized Rep. Rosiky Camacho.

Chairman Rosiky Camacho: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There will be Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee meeting with representatives on the project of PCI on the Telecommunication Act tomorrow at 10:00 a.m., very short.

The Chair recognized rep. Jones.

Chairman Jones: Tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. the Natural Resources Committee will meet and followed by the Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee meeting. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: I believe our session will be at 1:30 p.m. Is there any chance for your Committee meeting in the morning?

Chairman Jones: What time is your meeting?

Chairman Rosiky Camacho: At 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Jones: So, let us meet at 8:00 a.m.

The Chair recognized Rep. A. Camacho.

Rep. A. Camacho: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Committee on Ways and Means will meet right after the session with the our legal counsel, Tony Cabrera, today.

Speaker Fitial: Further Committee announcements?

Chairwoman Peter: Therefore, Health and Welfare Committee will not have their meeting because of the Budget meeting. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Further Announcement? I would like to ask Chairman Norman Palacios—do you have anything to announce? I think your Committee met this morning, the Ad Hoc Committee, do you wish to share with the members what you talked about?

Chairman Palacios: We just undergo title meeting for preparation for March 16 – I'll probably give you guys a short report later. But it is still on going.

Speaker Fitial: I would like to announce that I met with the Governor this morning and one of our concerns that was raised and discussed was the very same concern that Representative Pangelinan expounded on earlier. That is true. Our environment needs tender loving care. We are going to ban, we are going to come up with a plan, a legislation or whatever measure is needed expediently to ban the importation of all detergents that has phosphate contents. I know these are very cheap detergents, but in the long run they will ruin all the marine lives that we have in our waters. As you may know U.S. EPA ban phosphate content detergents in the United States. I don't know why the CNMI can't do the same to protect the marine lives. It is very serious because a lot of these detergents come in from somewhere else other than the United States and they come in because they are very cheap. So, for your information, I am going to be meeting with the ex-EPA person at four o'clock today to further discuss this very serious problem. The Governor may invoke his authority and issue an Executive Order or we may come up with a legislation banning phosphate content detergent. So, which ever is quicker the better. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Under Announcement, Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Yes.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce that we recess until 1:30 tomorrow afternoon.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

The House recessed at 2:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan P. Kaipat, Journal Clerk
House of Representatives