

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

TWENTY-FIRST DAY

October 5, 2000

The House of Representatives of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened in its Twenty-First Day, Second Regular Session, on Thursday, October 5, 2000, at 2:23 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), sixteen members were present. Representatives Maria “Malua” T. Peter and William S. Torres were excused.

Speaker Fitial: Representatives Lee Torres and Malua Peter are excused.

**ADOPTION OF JOURNALS**

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: I move for the adoption of the Twentieth Day, Second Regular Session journal.

The motion was seconded.

**20<sup>th</sup> Day, Second Regular (09/15/00)**

There was no discussion raised.

The motion to adopt the Twentieth Day, Second Regular Session journal was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The journal is adopted.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

H. B. NO. 12-275: A Bill for an Act to provide that the Department of Labor and Immigration shall not review labor contracts; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Dino M. Jones

H. B. NO. 12-276: A Bill for an Act to require that a right of way be granted to any parcel of land to be subdivided or is proposed for residential or commercial development; and for other purposes.

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

H. B. NO. 12-277: A Bill for an Act to ensure that the students of the Commonwealth receive quality school services, to approve the amendments of the Board of Education and the Public School System policies and regulations reclassifying counselors as certified employees and changing counselors' salaries; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara [**By request**]  
Referred to: Committee on Education

H. B. NO. 12- 278: A Bill for an Act to appropriate funds to supplement the funds available under Public Law 11-119 for the Tinian Carolinas Agriculture Homestead Waterline Project; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Norman S. Palacios  
Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. NO. 12-279: A Bill for an Act to repeal and re-enact Public Law 11-79 Section 6 (c) (2); and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Jesus T. Attao and four others  
Referred to: Committee on

H. B. NO. 12-280: A Bill for an Act to repeal and re-enact Public Law 11-25, Section 14 (d); and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Jesus T. Attao and one other  
Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. NO. 12-281: 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. Thomas B. Pangelinan  
Referred to: Committees on Ways and Means and Education

H. B. NO. 12-282: A Bill for an Act to repeal and reenact Section 1 of Public Law 12-7; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Dino M. Jones  
Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. NO. 12-283: A Bill for an Act to amend Title 9 Section 1304 of the Commonwealth Code, prohibiting the seizure of a persons drivers license prior to conviction for a crime or infraction.

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

H. B. NO. 12-284: A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC, Chapter 2, Sections 8221, 8222 and 8223; and for other purposes.

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

H. L. B. NO. 12-16: A Local Appropriation Bill for an Act to appropriate \$30,000 from the local license fees for pachinko slot machines and poker machines in the First Senatorial District; and for other purposes.

Offered by: Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.  
Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

### **INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

H. R. NO. 12-84: A House Resolution requesting the Governor to compose an ad hoc forum for all principal department and agency heads and their counterparts on Rota and Tinian in order to identify problems and offer solutions to promote efficiency and uniformity in their operations.

Offered by: Rep. Antonio M. Camacho

H. R. NO. 12-85: A House Resolution urging The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House, U. S. House of Representatives, to oppose the application of the U. S. federal minimum wage in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Offered by: Rep. Oscar M. Babauta and eight others

### MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

Gov. Comm. 12-80 – September 20, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he signed Senate Bill No. 12-34 (Domestic and Family Violence Act), into **Public Law 12-19**.

Gov. Comm. 12-81 – September 20, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he signed House Bill No. 12-11, SD1 (Free Trade Zone Act), into **Public Law 12-20**.

Gov. Comm. 12-82 – September 26, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he signed Senate Bill No. 12-65 (Commonwealth Medical and Health Insurance Task Force), into **Public Law 12-21**.

There was no discussion raised.

### SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

Sen. Comm. 12-67: Return of House Bill No. 12-100, HD1, SD2, HD2 (Reappropriation from PL 11-67 for Waterline Installation), which the Senate passed without amendments on September 22, 2000. [At the Governor]

Sen. Comm. 12-68: Return of House Bill No. 12-149 (Reappropriation for Precinct VI Basketball Courts), which the Senate passed without amendments of September 22, 2000. [At the Governor]

Sen. Comm. 12-69: Return of House Bill No. 12-157, HD1 (Health Care System Review Commission), which the Senate passed without amendments of September 22, 2000. [At the Governor]

Sen. Comm. 12-70: Return of House Bill No. 12-171, CS1 (MPLT/NNHC Loan Agreement Refinance Act), which the Senate passed without amendments on September 22, 2000. [At the Governor]

Sen. Comm. 12-71: Return of House Bill No. 12-177, CS1 (Toxic Substances Exposure Act), which the Senate passed without amendments on September 22, 2000. [At the Governor]

Sen. Comm. 12-72: Return of House Bill 12-188, HD1 (West Tinian Airport Supplemental Appropriation), which the Senate passed without amendments on September 22, 2000. [At the Governor]

Sen. Comm. 12-73: Return of House Bill No. 12-220 (Modify Animal Quarantine Requirements), which the Senate passed without amendment on September 22, 2000. [At the Governor]

Sen. Comm. 12-74: Return of House Bill No. 12-141, CD2 (Local Law and Municipal Ordinance Act), which the Senate passed on September 22, 2000, in the form of H.B. No. 12-174, CD2, SD1. [For action on Senate amendments]

Sen. Comm. 12-75: Return of House Bill No. 12-209, (Youth Congress Revision Act), which the Senate passed on September 22, 2000, in the form of H.B. No. 12-209, SD1. [For action on Senate amendments]

Sen. Comm. 12-76: Transmittal of Senate Bill No. 12-29, entitled, “To preserve and designate Lot No. 683 R 01 at As Nieves on the island of Rota for future cultural center; and for other purposes,” which the Senate passed on September 22, 2000. [For action]

Sen. Comm. 12-77: Transmittal of Senate Bill No. 12-30, entitled, “To amend Section 2(c) of PL 11-75; and for other purposes,” which the Senate passed on September 22, 2000. [For action]

Sen. Comm. 12-78: Transmittal of Senate Bill No. 12-31, entitled, “To promote equal access to salvage sites in the commonwealth by eliminating the possibility of one contractor having exclusive rights to more than one survey/salvage site, to promote greater local participation in survey/salvage operations, and for other purposes,” which the Senate passed on September 22, 2000. [For action]

Sen. Comm. 12-79: Transmittal of Senate Bill No. 12-78, entitled, “To require an equitable distribution of benefits before the Governor or any other executive branch official can accept any federal grant or program; and for other purposes,” which the Senate passed on September 22, 2000. [For action]

Sen. Comm. 12-80: Transmittal of Senate Joint Resolution No. 12-1, entitled, “A Senate Joint Resolution respectfully requesting the Congress of the United States of America to add Tinian’s North Field to the National Park System,” which the Senate adopted on September 22, 2000. [For action]

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: So move for the acceptance of all the Senate Communications as it appears on today’s Calendar.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Rule IX, Section 15, I move for a subsidiary motion to place Senate Communication 12-74, reference to House Bill No. 12-141; Senate Communication 12-75, reference to House Bill No. 12-209; Senate Communication 12-80, reference to Senate Joint Resolution No. 12-1 on the respective Calendar for today's action.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. I would like to assign two Senate Bills under Senate Communications 12-76 and 12-77: Senate Communication 12-76 to Committee on Natural Resources and Senate Communication 12-77 to Committee on Health and Welfare. Also, Senate Communication 12-78 to Committee on Natural Resources, and lastly, Senate Communication 12-79, Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, there is only one Standing Committee Report appeared on today's Order of Business; however, copies of Standing Committee Report Nos. 12-171 and 12-172 have distributed earlier, so include Standing Committee Report Nos. 12-171 and 12-172. With that, Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of Standing Committee Report Nos. 12-170, 12-171 and 12-172.

The motion was seconded.

S. C. R. NO. 12-170: Reporting on House Bill No. 12-90, entitled, "To amend 4 CMC 7306; and for other purposes." *Your Committee on Ways and Means recommends passage of the bill in the form of H.B. No. 12-90, CD1.*

S. C. R. NO. 12-171: Reporting on House Bill No. 12-257, entitled, "To further amend Public Law 10-57 to place the Board of Public Lands and the Division of Public Lands as a single independent agency within the Executive Branch; and for other purposes." *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends passage in the form of HB 12-257, CD1.*

S. C. R. NO. 12-172: Reporting on House Bill No. 12-255, entitled, “To amend 2 CMC § 5201(a), to require all parties to a permit to visit Aguiguan register with the Division of Fish and Wildlife prior to and immediately after all landings on Aguiguan; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Natural Resources recommends that the House pass the bill.*

There was no discussion raised.

The motion to adopt Standing Committee Report Nos. 12-170, 12-171 and 12-172 was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries.

### **RESOLUTION CALENDAR**

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: If there is no objection from the members, may I request the indulgence of the members, Mr. Speaker, to place all those resolutions on today’s Calendar as introduced so that we may pass, including Senate Joint Resolution No. 12-1.

Speaker Fitial: Any objection?

There was no objection.

Speaker Fitial: So ordered.

Floor Leader Babauta: One minute recess, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Recess for reproduction.

The House recessed at 2:28 p.m.

### **RECESS**

The House reconvened at 2:35 p.m.

Speaker Fitial: The House shall reconvene. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: I move to suspend Rule VII, Sections 9 and 10 for the placement and adoption of Senate Joint Resolution No. 12-1 and House Resolution Nos. 12-84 and 12-85.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: I now move for the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution No. 12-1 under Senate Communication 12-80.

The motion was seconded.

**S. J. R. NO. 12-1:** A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ADD TINIAN'S NORTH FIELD TO THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

The motion to adopt Senate Joint Resolution No. 12-1 was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: Senate Joint Resolution 12-1 is adopted. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: I move for the adoption of House Resolution Nos. 12-84 and 12-85.

The motion was seconded.

**H. R. NO. 12-84:** A HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO COMPOSE AN AD HOC FORUM FOR ALL PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY HEADS AND THEIR COUNTERPARTS ON ROTA AND TINIAN IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY PROBLEMS AND OFFER SOLUTIONS TO PROMOTE EFFICIENCY AND UNIFORMITY IN THEIR OPERATIONS.

**H. R. NO. 12-85:** A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE HONORABLE J. DENNIS HASTERT, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION OF THE U. S. FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

The motion to adopt House Resolution Nos. 12-84 and 12-85 was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: House Resolution Nos. 12-84 and 85 are adopted.

## BILL CALENDAR

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I now move for the suspension of Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 for the placement and passage on First and Final Reading the following House Bills: 12-90, 12-257 and 12-255.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Passage motion?

Floor Leader Babauta: So move, Mr. Speaker, for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-257.

The motion was seconded.

**H. B. NO. 12-257, CD1: TO FURTHER AMEND PUBLIC LAW 10-57 TO PLACE THE BOARD OF PUBLIC LANDS AND THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC LANDS AS A SINGLE INDEPENDENT AGENCY WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Representative Hofschneider, recognized.

Rep. Hofschneider: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I applaud the good Vice Speaker for attempting to provide remedies to the existing Public Lands Act, namely Public Law 10-57. However, in the last discussion on related issues on public land we have concluded and agreed that the fundamental policies are alive and intact. On page 5 of 9 of the bill, I have two questions the first question is, on the heading on line 6, Section 105, it states, “Public Lands: Additional Fundamental Policies”, which additional fundamental polices being added as opposed to the existing fundamental policies? Two, if there are additions to existing fundamental policies in the Constitution then obviously the next question would be, can we legislatively amend and add on a constitutional provision by law? I don’t recall fundamental policies as being stated in the Constitution like other sections that would allow provisions of expansion of the extensions through legislative process and on the fundamental policies, I would like to hear those two questions answered.

Speaker Fitial: I would like to ask the unanimous consent to resolve into the Committee of the Whole because I would like the discussion to be recorded during the Committee of the Whole discussion on this issue.

Floor Leader Babauta: No objection, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Any second?

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries.

The House resolved into the Committee of the Whole at 2:41 p.m.

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The House reconvened to the plenary session at 2:55 p.m.

Speaker Fitial: Further deliberation? Representative Jones?

Rep. Jones: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a Floor Amendment on the Bill before us 12-257? On page 2 --

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: So move, Mr. Speaker, for the suspension of Rule IX, Section 11.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Recognized, Representative Jones.

Rep. Jones: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A Floor Amendment to the subject Bill, on page 2, line 23, add the words, "Section 104" after the words "pursuant to" and strike out "1 CMC əə 2674 or 2675".

Speaker Fitial: Pursuant to what?

Rep. Jones: Pursuant to – let me repeat. On page 2, line 23, add the words, "Section 104", after the words "pursuant to", strike-out "1 CMC əə 2674 or 2675. On page 7, line 6 add the words, "under Section 104" after "lease extension" and strike-out the words, "1 CMC əə 2674 or 2675" on line 7.

Speaker Fitial: On line 7?

Rep. Jones: Yes.

Floor Leader Babauta: Repeat.

Rep. Jones: Alright. On page 7, line 6, add the words, "under Section 104" after "lease extension" and strike-out the words, "1 CMC əə 2674 or 2675" on line 7. On page 7, line 9,

add the words, “Section 104” after the words, “extension under” and to strike-out the words, “1 CMC ə 2674 or 2675” after the words, “this act or”. Thank you.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

The motion to adopt the Floor Amendment offered by Representative Jones was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Further deliberation? Representative Hofschneider?

Rep. Hofschneider: Yes. As a matter of recollection, Mr. Speaker and members, I believe that one of the problems that Public Lands typically encounters is from the commercial and noncommercial request for putting signage up on public property, public land. On Public Law 10-57, I believe that it states that even though if it is only two square meter or four square meter or less than ten square meters public land request for a signage, a business signage or nonprofit signage, that they have to go to the process of appraisal and based on the appraise value of that requested property they are assess that fee. Mr. Speaker, can we take look at Public Law 10-57 and if this is the legislation that would address Public Law 10-57, let us do something about that particular problem that continues to play both the public and Public Lands. I came across this under Public Law 10-57, the chairman of the delegation and the Mayor are supposed to act as the advisory council in each respective senatorial district to the Board of Directors of Public Lands and this is a consistent problem that they have been facing over the years since inception of Public Law 10-57. I just thought of taking the opportunity to correct it, if we wish to take that on a separate legislation then that is fine.

Speaker Fitial: Yes. Probably we should address that under a separate legislation. But I agree with you. Those are no sense.

Rep. Hofschneider: They are. -- *Recess, ya baihu na klaru etyu?*

Speaker Fitial: Let us dispose of the main motion on this Bill. If no further deliberation, I would like to call the roll. Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-257, CD1, HD1 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. Deleon 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	excused
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	yes
Rep. William S. Torres	excused
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-257, Committee Draft 1, House Draft 1, passes the House on First and Final Reading. Floor Leader, next?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, before I move on, I would like to request the indulgence of the members for the suspension of Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 for the placement and passage of House Bill No. 12-275 on today’s Order of Business.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. House Bill No. 12-275 is now placed on today’s Bill Calendar for consideration.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: I now move for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-141, Committee Draft 2, Senate Draft 1.

The motion was seconded.

**H. B. NO. 12-141, CD2, SD1:** A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND COMPENSATION OF MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, AND THEIR 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.

Speaker Fitial: Can you please repeat the motion?

Floor Leader Babauta: Passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-141, Committee Draft 2, as amended by the Senate, under Senate Communication 12-74.

Speaker Fitial: Okay. Discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

Speaker Fitial: Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-141, CD2, SD1 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. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider	yes
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	yes
Rep. Dino M. Jones	yes
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	excused
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	yes
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	yes
Rep. Maria “Malua” T. Peter	excused
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	yes
Rep. William S. Torres	excused
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-141, Committee Draft 2, Senate Draft 1, passes the House. The Vice Speaker is excused to catch his flight to Rota. Next, Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: I now move for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-209, as amended by the Senate.

The motion was seconded.

**H. B. NO. 12-209, SD1**: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT 1 CMC 1601-1616; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

Speaker Fitial: Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-209, SD1, 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. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider	yes
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	yes
Rep. Dino M. Jones	yes
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	excused
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	yes
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	yes
Rep. Maria “Malua” T. Peter	excused
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	yes
Rep. William S. Torres	excused
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-209, Senate Draft 1, passes the House. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I now move for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-90, under Standing Committee Report No. 12-170.

The motion was seconded.

**H. B. NO. 12-90, CD1**: TO AMEND 4 CMC 7306; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

Speaker Fitial: Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-90, CD1, 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. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider	yes
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	yes
Rep. Dino M. Jones	yes
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	excused
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	yes
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	yes
Rep. Maria “Malua” T. Peter	excused
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	yes
Rep. William S. Torres	excused
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-90, Committee Draft 1, passes the House. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I now move for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-255.

The motion was seconded.

**H. B. NO. 12-255:** TO AMEND 2 CMC § 5201(A), TO REQUIRE ALL PARTIES TO A PERMIT TO VISIT AGUIGUAN REGISTER WITH THE DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE PRIOR TO AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER ALL LANDINGS ON AGUIGUAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

Speaker Fitial: Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-255, 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. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider	yes
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	yes
Rep. Dino M. Jones	yes
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	excused
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	yes
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	yes
Rep. Maria “Malua” T. Peter	excused
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	yes
Rep. William S. Torres	excused
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-255 passes the House on First and Final Reading. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I now move for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-275.

The motion was seconded.

**H. B. NO. 12-275:** A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND IMMIGRATION SHALL NOT REVIEW LABOR CONTRACTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Representative Benavente?

Rep. Benavente: The first question, Mr. Speaker, will be, the intent of this Bill is to remove the authority of Labor to approve the contracts?

Rep. Jones: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Rep. Benavente: There are certain requirements under our laws that are included in the contract for hiring nonresident workers and that this is one of the ways in which the employers are being required to provide benefits under the existing law. It is the only way in which Labor has the opportunity to review if employers are in fact complying with the existing laws under those contracts. I wonder if this is something that needs to be reviewed by Labor and Immigration? I guess this is something that I guess if necessary to hold public hearing on, but I understand that at some point maybe it would not be necessary for the government to be reviewing contracts but just as long as there are certain requirements, benefits being provided by the employer then that has to be complied with somehow within those contracts.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Yes. Part of the concern by Representative Benavente is on page 2 under Section 4, which still mandates the employer to provide copy as the controlling document between the two parties. So at least something is filed with the Division of Labor and Immigration other than requiring the Director of Labor and Immigration to sign off on the contract. This would enable the employer and employee with a mutual consent as indicated in the contract with a copy provided to Labor and Immigration as a controlling documentation binding the two parties.

Speaker Fitial: Are you through?

Floor Leader Babauta: Yes. I yield.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Hofschneider?

Rep. Hofschneider: I agree, Mr. Speaker, that, sometimes the level of bureaucracy that we have today in employment requirement is just getting out of hand and it is very obvious in the budgeting process. We see how much we have allocated the taxpayers money to go over this particular concern. But my great reservation is majority of employees that do come into the Commonwealth for employment services are skilled levels, but not necessarily possess an adequate English for instance that would give them the assurance of understanding the terms of the contracts. History has thought us here in the Commonwealth that aside from unpaid wages, disputes arises from the lack of knowledge as to an employee's responsibility for instance. By removing the overview of the Department of Labor on contractual agreements between the employee and employer my greatest reservation is that it will increase the number of disputes to be filed within the Department. Second of all, we just had an incident that placed us in several of the national medias or the lime light of national politics and that is, in particular, in the case of the Bangladeshi incident. Now, this is only taking away the responsibility of the department to go over the contract, but it may in open up doors for similar instances where unscrupulous businesses that brings similar employees without securing legitimate employment in the Commonwealth may again face us with similar criticism. I think that streamlining as to what extend the overview of the department, but to remove it completely and only require them to submit a signed contract with the department opens up a great opportunity for unscrupulous businesses to take advantage. The solvency of an employer for instance may not appear on the first instance that an employer comes into the department to request for nonresident employees. It is kind of oxymoron or this is the hypocrisy here, Mr. Speaker. We impose on nonresidents, but we don't impose it on resident employees. I've never heard of any residents being employed with a contract having to be submitted to the department and we leave these people with no recourse to present their grieves other than to really take it with the U. S. Department of Labor or our Department. I

think that the good author has a very good idea, but he is ahead of his time. It may in fact, Mr. Speaker, bring us more actors to the Commonwealth to criticize us. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Further deliberation? Representative Ada?

Rep. Ada: *Atman ti murebuttle-hit*. Perhaps a solution right of the back is... first of all, Mr. Chairman, is the employment contract here in uniform as well as other contracts? What I am trying to say is that when you hire a carpenter, does he have the same contract as you hire a domestic helper?

Rep. Jones: It is up to the employer and the employee.

Rep. Ada: So the problem there is, that is the reason why they review it there at Labor, is to make sure that there is no agreement there that may implies such treatment, you know what I mean? People complaining about labor abuses and all that, I believe if they were just to file the contract without reviewing it, it puts the CNMI government in some sort of liability. That is all. Thank you.

Rep. Benavente: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Representative Benavente?

Rep. Benavente: I would like as this time just to reiterate what Representative Hofschneider... I also strongly believe that this would create a situation in which there would be a lot more complaints once again, because of contracts that at one point the employer or the employee would disagree on and that Labor and Immigration would not then have the authority or to enforce one way or another because they were not allow to review and to make the corrections on that contract. This might benefit some employers and maybe a lot of those people that process the applications for nonresident workers because it is one of the things that takes time under the application. But what we need to do is get our department to process this application, make sure that the contracts are filled out and get it out rather than removing some of important requirements we have at this time. Again, it only benefits those people that process applications for nonresident workers. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: We all know that we have a problem and this problem has been in existence since the effective date of the Nonresident Workers Act and was Public Law 3-66. This problem continues to grow as the CNMI brought in more nonresident workers. But there has not been any solution offered to rectify this problem and as a result the CNMI employers, small businesses and large businesses are constantly complaining about the time consuming process of approving an employment contract. So, the businesses have been asking for relief. This would provide the relief for employers to hire nonresident workers without having to go through the bureaucracy of labor reviewing the employment applications or employment contracts. The argument both by Representatives Hofschneider and Benavente that this might create more problems because of lack of review, adequate review to ensure that the

nonresidents are qualified, the nonresidents are not criminals, the nonresidents that are not sick with communicable diseases, that argument also holds water. So, it is a policy decision that we have to make, whether to provide relief to the employers and place the responsibility of ensuring that they are recruiting or hiring qualified law abiding healthy nonresident workers. That is going to be the decision that we will have to make, but we do have a problem. The employers are expecting that the government would give them some kind of a relief from this particular problem because we have seen cases where an employment application would be submitted and according to the Nonresident Workers Act, the Labor has thirty days in which to process employment application, unless there are deficiency and that is the big loophole. And just before the thirty-day deadline expires, they always find deficiencies somehow just to extend the agony of the employers. So, basically it is a policy decision that we have to make. Representative Tony Camacho?

Rep. Camacho: I think the concern that was raised by Representative Hofschneider, the role of the government, I would like to expound that the role will be within the employment service prior to activating the contracts the employment service has to take action on the advertisement, the requirements and what we have locally available or not, once that thing is passed it has to go through this provision of the law. They will execute a contract with a provision of the minimum wage guidelines and the benefits will be negotiated between two parties. That is how I see once we pass this Bill into law. That role will be with the employment services it is a strong role to be placed by the employment services.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Jones?

Rep. Jones: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really support the remarks you made that this has been for many years and instead of decreasing the impact of the existing law, that mandates the Director of Labor to the sole authority in approving and disapproving contract agreements and implementation and enforcement of the existing laws. It is time that we must let go the business and permit the conditions between the employee and employer be at their own choice and decision because if the choice or the decision is made then it will be between the two of them to sacrifice. I believe that it is not fair for a government authority or agency or department to impose conditions on the private sector and when the decision is wrongly done the burden or the victim of such decision is in the hands of the employee and the employer. Second, the reason that this is a criminal offense if it is violated the existing statute is because it is in the book of our CNMI Code. Second, to my knowledge and what I have learned from several attorneys from the government and the private sector that this is the only civil case where the government spends annually to finance the Labor Department in implementing and enforcing the content of the law. It is time that we must divert that Nine Hundred and Fifty Sum Thousands Dollars every year for the Labor Department to take care of complaints and concerns from the private sector and give it to the Employment Office and let the Employment Office start rolling in accomplishing its mission and that is to recruit local people, U. S. citizens into the private sector. This is what the other end of this Bill, to put more money into the Employment Office so that our people can be given more service in terms of knowledge, skills, trainings and experience. The Employment Office gets only

\$250,000 a year versus the Labor Department gets \$950,000 in fiscal year 2000. In the previous fiscal years, I believe it is more than that. I don't mean that we should disregard totally the existence of -- be it in the private sector as much as possible. In fact to the point if we do this and accomplish that federal takeover maybe minimized because they have seen us spending more money in the office that this suppose to take care finding jobs of our own local people and U. S. citizens in the private sector. I think that these points that I have raised, encourage us to pass this Bill because this Bill was passed along with the Labor Reform, but when it went to the Senate somehow it was detached. But I have been assured by the Senate counterparts that they will pass it because they have seen the reality and the mission of this Bill to concentrate more now in getting our local people get the skill, get the knowledge, get the experience and be placed in the private sector. So, I encourage members please to do the same thing when we passed this the first time that we entertain. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Hofschneider, for the second time.

Rep. Hofschneider: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Honestly, if we all just pause for a moment and I tip my hat to you, Mr. Speaker, for saying that this is a policy decision that we should -- it is in fact just that. This is my personal opinion and personal reading on House Bill No. 12-275. It is anti-local resident employment. One, when you don't require a degree of oversight department then it lives no answer or defense for the government, Department of Labor, either be it the employment services to defend themselves as to what is contractual agreement and to monitor those specific employment opportunities that are being filled by nonresidents. The argument that we have not come up with a solution is valid. If we can recall back two Legislatures and last Legislature, the labor reform legislation that was done by the Committee then for some reason they didn't make it out at that time, I don't know why? But it contains some very progressive solutions to the existing problem that we face. Removing completely the oversight of reviewing the contractor obligations between the employee and employer leaves little defense for the government and the only defense that the CNMI government will have without specifically indemnifying the government here as to the content of that particular contract will result in increasing in cost in trying to defense when a dispute comes before the department between the employee and the employer. The economics of this legislation as I said, is in fact anti-local resident employee. Two, this is a new policy direction that we are embarking and whether it will work or not? I guess we just have to see when this Bill becomes law. But are we to say that we should have thought better, when in fact, a rash of problem begins to rise as a result of lack of oversight? I don't know, Mr. Speaker, but I cannot articulate anymore than what I have done and I rest my case on that.

Speaker Fitial: Let me just briefly illustrate the process in the event that this Bill becomes law. The process begins whenever an employer desires to hire nonresident worker. That employer will go down to the Employment Services Office and submits his request. He has to submit his request to the Employment Services Office because there is a law granting preference of employment to local and U. S. citizens in the CNMI. It is the job of the

Employment Services as Representative Jones had pointed out earlier to go out and search for local residents who are interested in that particular job that the employer desires to employ this is the key right here. That is why Representative Jones is saying that we should divert more financial resources to the Employment Services Office so that they can go knock on doors of our local people to get those unemployed locals to apply for those jobs. So, that particular requirement is not taken away by this amendment. The Employment Services has to certify that there are no locals available before the employment contract for a nonresident worker will be approved. Only if and when the Employment Services Office certifies that there is no local available, that is the only time the employment contract for a nonresident worker may be entertained. So, after an employment contract for a nonresident worker is entertained then Labor will then receive a full copy because if there is a dispute between the employer and the employee, a nonresident worker, for example, the employer play some tricks on the employee and changes some of the terms and conditions of the contract after it has been executed and a copy of the executed contract will be given to Labor then Labor can come in and rescue whoever is being damaged or wrong. So, that would be the process if this Bill becomes law. The legal counsel has a suggestion and I think it is appropriate to consider at this time. So, can I just call for a short recess so that our legal counsel can expound on the amendment.

The House recessed at 3:43 p.m.

### RECESS

The House reconvened at 4:00 p.m.

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, with the lengthy discussion I withdraw my motion and offer a subsidiary motion that House Bill No. 12-275 be pass on First Reading only.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

The motion to pass House Bill No. 12-275 on First Reading only was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for the passage on Second and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-17, under Standing Committee Report No. 12-165.

The motion was seconded.

**H. B. NO. 12-17, CD1:** TO PROVIDE A TAX CREDIT TO EMPLOYERS WHO HIRE AND EMPLOY HANDICAPPED OR DISABLED INDIVIDUALS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Several members voice, “ready”.

Speaker Fitial: Roll call. -- Representative Pangelinan, recognized.

Rep. Pangelinan: I am quite aware of the program in special education. Today in Education under the Special Ed Program it is for an era in inclusive education. What it does is simply train the student with their special disability. Tailored so that once they complete the disability program or IEP so that it can be tailored to what the private sectors or job employment opportunity has. Inclusive means, they don't want to be excluded of the regular special education. In other words, these students with disability are streamline to the regular classroom program to merge with so-called or lack of better terms, regular students. If we provide and send a tax credit for simply an incentive to hire people with disability, this is to me an exclusive practice and if somewhere contrary to the program failure of these special students with disability. I don't know whether there was public hearing on this, but if there is, people under this program the special education will come running down to this Hall of the Legislature to testify against exempt. I don't know what kind of incentive program we should provide. But the tax credit incentive to hire people with disability is a total contrary to the program itself when students with disability are especially trained so that they can be accepted of their abilities, the way they are irregardless with any special treatment, special incentive for them so that they can be well accepted in the job market the way they are and of course with their special ability in terms of job performances. Let me share this, what about if we generalize to give tax credit to all private sectors who hire newly high school graduates? That to me is a very inclusive practice. But if you segregate some individuals then that to me is an exclusive practice which is contrary to the total formulation of program. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Ton Camacho?

Rep. A. Camacho: The Bill is not really tuning over to the education. The Bill is tuning over to the private sectors to employ. We encourage them to employ disabled persons. This is the crust of the Bill. The Hotel Association are happy to have Bill in place so that they can really go out and search for disabled people because even Vocational Rehab, they are saying they don't have the numbers because it is just like taboo at this time to have people come out and say, “I have disability”. With this, even the Vocational Rehab are saying that we have to push this Bill so that these people will come out and will say, “we are like anybody else even though we have that disability, but we are employable.” This is the crust of the Bill. This is not going to education and any other professions. We are only trying to have these people

come up and say that, “we are disable and we would like to be employed.” So, we are giving also the private sector employers that benefit to come out and say, “okay, we would like to employ you” because we are giving them also the benefits. They have their return.

Rep. Hofschneider: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Representative Hofschneider?

Rep. Hofschneider: Thank you. This is a class example of both sides having the same compassion and we have to be very careful not to have a misguided compassion. This is similar to what Representative Panglenan is saying about affirmative action, it intended to promote and give more accessibility to minorities in education for instance. Well, recently as we all know, affirmative action is being taken up both in most states and that is the trench. Perhaps a compromise, Mr. Speaker, is to call in the individual, Ms. Tee Abrahams and see what this Bill is going to do in terms of whether enhancing employment for disabled individuals or maybe she has the review about the social taboos as Representative Antonio Camacho pointed out, which is very true. My experienced is that a lot of families don’t necessarily want to bring out to either employment or to social occasions because people will be always people. They look at unfortunate individuals in a different way and a different manner. The more we attend to them either compassionately and no mileage intended and perhaps that is not what they want to begin with. And we have to be very careful with this, this is a fine line that we are crossing and we should bring in Ms. Tee Abrahams to help us find the solution to this piece of legislation. She may be very helpful, she is entrusted with the vocational part of disabled individuals.

Rep. A. Camacho: Mr. Speaker, the Vocational Rehab supports the Bill. In the event to accommodate the concerns of the Education System, why don’t they come up with another bill to incorporate after the passage of this Bill? This Bill is only to accommodate them with the opportunity of the private employment sectors. We are not talking about –

Speaker Fitial: Can we now hear from the author? Representative Attao?

Rep. Attao: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The day before yesterday, I met with Ms. Tee Abrahams, Director for Vocational Rehab, she is supporting the Bill. However, she had some information to be incorporated and I told her that the Bill will be passed and the recommendation will be submitted to the Senate should the House pass the Bill. She is supporting the Bill so as Tom Camacho, he is asking us to pass the Bill so that once the Bill becomes law it’s that less fortunate brothers and sisters will have the opportunity to get employment at the private sectors. This particular Bill, Mr. Speaker, was introduced in the Ninth Congress, Tenth Congress, Eleventh Congress and now, Twelfth Congress. I think it is important to at least address the needs of the disabled people. I know that all of us here agreed to help these less fortunate brothers and sisters. I am asking for your support should Director Abrahams submit their recommendation we will try and come up with another

legislation addressing the recommendation submitted by the Vocational Rehab. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I ask the members here to pass the Bill as it is now. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Pangelinan?

Rep. Pangelinan: There seems to be a reflection that once we pass this Bill there will be rush of private sectors trying to employ people with disability because of the tax credit. But inclusive education is not that. First of all, has there been a survey of how many people with disability are unemployed and they really want to be employed? Is there any survey information that these individuals who would like to work under whatever circumstances? If not, if these people are not employed how come they are not being employed? What is the hindrance or hindrances? What are the taxes going on? I understand perfectly, Mr. Speaker, the burden of employers to employ people with disabilities and I feel they should be given recognition or incentive. But I don't want any private sectors to employ people with disabilities because of the tax credit only for that purposes. That is the fragile program of educating these individuals so one day they will fulfill there life dream to be treated without any special treatment that they should be inclusive anywhere they want. To participate in activities they wanted to participate. And to me, this is a special treatment. I am not totally against it, but there are certain information that we need to know. I don't want the private sectors to rush to this holy ground and say, "now, I would like to hire individuals with disability because there is a tax credit". First, I would like to ask how come you didn't hire prior to this?

Speaker Fitial: I believe only two days ago, former Senator Ponce Rasa went off-island not only to receive further treatment but also to work as a disabled simply because there is no other opportunity for him here. So with this Bill in place probably he would have opted to stay and work here because there will be incentive. He probably do not need to be trained further because he is a professional, but somebody might hire him because of his expertise and at the same time taking advantage of the incentive. Just for a point of information.

Rep. A. Camacho: Ready.

Speaker Fitial: Ready? Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-17, CD1, on First and Final Reading as follows:

Rep. Martin B. Ada	abstained
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. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider	yes
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	abstained
Rep. Dino M. Jones	yes
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	excused
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	yes
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	no
Rep. Maria “Malua” T. Peter	excused
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	yes
Rep. William S. Torres	excused
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-17, Committee Draft 1, passes the House on Second and Final Reading. Floor Leader, no more?

### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, before we do that, I understand Representative Bill Torres is inviting the members for the Ninth Day Mass commemorating his mom’s passing away at Mount Carmel Cathedral at 5:00 p.m. and dinner will be served after that. He asked that I extend the invitation to all the members and staff of the Legislature.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Hofschneider?

Rep. Hofschneider: Under Miscellaneous, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Miscellaneous.

Rep. Hofschneider: Mr. Speaker, my family and I extend a very big Thank You for the passing of my Mother. It meant a lot to us for you guys to show up and be with us. Also on Saturday, 4:30 Mass at the Cathedral, if you have time, please do come. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Jones?

Chairman Jones: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to extend my appreciation to all the House members and the Senate because this is my first time and this is history for me personally, that in the six years of me being in the House of Representatives, this is the first time that my bill and bills will be walking to the Governor for his action and I thank everyone.

Speaker Fitial: Do you want to extend that to the Governor? If there is no further deliberation on the floor, Floor Leader, recognized for a recess.

Chairman Jones: Announcement, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Sorry, we have an announcement here from Chairman Jones.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair recognized Rep. Jones.

Chairman Jones: Thank you. There is a Public Hearing, Committees on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and Natural Resources tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. here in the House Chamber. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Chairman Rosiky Camacho?

Chairman Rosiky Camacho: Two announcements, Mr. Speaker. On Tuesday at 1:30 p.m., Public Hearing on Texas Road and on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October, the Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communication will be having a field trip to the Sadog Tasi, Agingan, at the West Water Division; and tentatively there will be a ride of the submarine to see the outfalls of the break water into the lagoon, at 1:00 p.m. tentatively.

Speaker Fitial: Chairwoman Ichihara?

Chairwoman Ichihara: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Tuesday at 9:00 a.m., we are inviting you to the House Chamber for the contractors briefing on two high schools that will be built. They will be coming here and we have invited the Senate counterparts and other department heads will be here also.

Speaker Fitial: I urge all of you please to attend it is very important. Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: I move to recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The House recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House recessed at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan P. Kaipat, Journal Clerk  
House of Representatives