



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SPECIAL SESSION, 2017

## LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

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1<sup>st</sup> Day, Sixth Special Session

Friday, July 28, 2017

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*The House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its First Day, Sixth Special Session on Friday, July 28, 2017, at 10:09 a.m., in the House Chamber on Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.*

*The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan, Speaker of the House, presided.*

*A moment of silence was observed.*

### ROLL CALL

*The Clerk called the roll and nineteen members were present; Representative Edmund S. Villagomez was in at 10:44 a.m.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Clerk. I understand the Minority Leader will be here late. So with 19 members present this session will move forward. Thank you. I also understand that there are communications and legislations bills to be introduced. Before that let me ask the Floor Leader for a suspension motion. Recognize the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, I would like to suspend Rule IX, Section 4 (d) so that the House amends its agenda to include unnumbered bills, resolutions and communications. So move.

### **RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

#### **Section 4. Format of Bills and Resolutions**

(d) Bills and resolutions for introduction may be pre-filed with the House Clerk for formal introduction at the next session, provided that it is pre-filed in sufficient time to appear on the session agenda as required under Rule III. The 72-hour notice and agenda requirements may be dispensed with for Special Emergency Sessions and Sessions called by the Governor in accordance with Rule III.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 4 (d) with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	absent

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker all 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Clerk. With all 19 members present voting in the affirmative to suspend Rule IX, Section 4 (d) hereby carries. Thank you. Now we go down to item II, before that let me just – just for the benefit of our guest today pursuant to the Open Government Act and the Official Rules of the House of Representative, public notice and agenda was posted 72 hours in advance. Oral testimony may be presented during the meeting pertaining to any items on the day’s agenda otherwise may submit their comments in writing to Speaker of the House on or before the meeting date. For the record, please state your name to whom you speak on behalf be it an agency or department, representing a private entity and/or yourself as a private citizen. The public is given five-minutes to present your comments and the Speaker will remind you of your time. The podium is now open. Anyone wishes to comment on any of the items?

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Two individuals made comments pertaining to the following:

**S. C. R. NO. 20-43:** Reporting on H. B. No. 20-11, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to ban the use of plastic checkout bags; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Natural Resources recommends the House pass H. B. No. 20-11 in its current form.*

Mr. Frank Rabauliman, Administrator for the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality  
Ms. Becky Furey, Program Manager for the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance

*The Chair directed the members to item IV and recognized Representative Jose I. Itibus for the first introduction.*

## **ADOPTION OF JOURNALS**

*None*

## **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

### ***House Bills:***

*Representative Jose I Itibus officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

#### **H. B. NO. 20-97**

To require all future road developments within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to include bicycle lanes as part of the package for road constructions and/or upgrades within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes.

**REP. JOSE I. ITIBUS** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and Donald C. Barcinas)

*The Chair referred House Bill 20-97 to the Committee on Transportation and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.*

*Representative Angel A. Demapan officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

#### **H. B. NO. 20-98**

To require that not less than 70 percent of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funding that is allocated to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, shall be for the primary purpose of providing immediate shelter and supportive services to adult and youth victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence and their dependents in accordance with 42 U.S. Code §10408(b)(2).

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

*The Chair referred House Bill 20-98 to the Committee on Social and Human Services and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.*

*Representative Angel A. Demapan officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

#### **H. B. NO. 20-99**

To amend 4 CMC §2308 to clarify that the casino gross revenue tax funds are separate from the general fund; and for other purposes.

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Chairman. You may proceed.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 20-99 includes the main provision of previously passed by the House, House Bill 20-15 which was amended by the Senate and was rejected by the House and ended up in conference committee. Absent the appointment of conferees from the Senate, Mr. Speaker, I am introducing this provision which only includes a provision to set the separate account from the general fund. Because this is a provision that we have acted on previously and because of the urgent need of the provision, I am requesting that this bill be placed on calendar.

*Several members voiced “no objection”.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Chairman. I hear no objection, so let me recognize the Floor Leader for the placement on the Bill Calendar.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On that note, I would like to offer a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 that is the referral of bills and resolutions so that we may place House Bill 20-99 on the Bill Calendar. So move.

## **RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 8. Referral of Bills and Resolutions**

(a) Bills and resolutions shall be read by title upon introduction and (except as provided in subsection (b), the Speaker shall refer such measures to an appropriate committee or to more than one committee, jointly or sequentially. The Clerk shall endorse such reference on the measure before duplication and shall enter such reference upon the Journal. In the case of error of reference, correction may be made by the House, with debate, immediately after the reading and approval of the Journal, by unanimous consent, or upon motion of either committee claiming jurisdiction or the committee to which the measure has been erroneously referred.

(b) The Speaker may place a resolution directly on the Resolution Calendar, rather than refer it to a committee, subject to appeal to the House.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion suspend Rule IX, Section 8 and to place House Bill 20-99 on the Bill Calendar was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair officially introduced the following House Bill 20-100 and referred the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means:*

### **H. B. NO. 20-100**

To establish a reserve fund to be used to meet the future needs of the Commonwealth.

**REP. RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*)

*The Chair recognized Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz for the next introduction.*

*Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

**H. B. NO. 20-101**

To amend 1 CMC §8364, as amended by public law 15-70, to allow annuitants to enroll in the commonwealth government health insurance program; and for other purposes.

**REP. FRANCISCO S. DELA CRUZ** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representative Donald C. Barcinas)

*The Chair referred House Bill 20-101 to the Committee on Health and Welfare and recognized Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao for the next introduction.*

*Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

**H. B. NO. 20-102**

To repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes.

**REP. BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

*The Chair referred House Bill 20-102 to the Committee on Gaming and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.*

*Representative Angel A. Demapan officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

**H. B. NO. 20-103**

To appropriate \$16,296,263.89 to pay the judgment in Commonwealth vs. Lot No. 353 New-G et al, Civil Case No. 97-0266.

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Demapan. You still have the floor.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, House Bill 20-103 is introduced on the premise of ongoing proceeding in the court. House Bill 20-103 is a product of collaboration between the Office of the Attorney General, the Administration and the Legislature to make whole the largest debt of the government in land compensation to the stakeholders and landowners of Lot No. 353 New-G. In this regard Mr. Speaker and with supporting documents filed in the court by way of declarations from the Secretary of Finance and then Acting Governor Arnold Palacios. Mr. Speaker, I am making a request barring no objections from the members, we place House Bill 20-103 on today’s Bill Calendar.

*Several members voiced “no objection”.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Chairman. So with that let me ask the Floor Leader for a motion to place on today’s Bill Calendar.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I would like to offer a suspension motion and that is to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 referrals of bills and resolutions, so that we may place House Bill 20-103 on Bill Calendar. So move.

## **RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 8. Referral of Bills and Resolutions**

(a) Bills and resolutions shall be read by title upon introduction and (except as provided in subsection (b), the Speaker shall refer such measures to an appropriate committee or to more than one committee, jointly or sequentially. The Clerk shall endorse such reference on the measure before duplication and shall enter such reference upon the Journal. In the case of error of reference, correction may be made by the House, with debate, immediately after the reading and approval of the Journal, by unanimous consent, or upon motion of either committee claiming jurisdiction or the committee to which the measure has been erroneously referred.

(b) The Speaker may place a resolution directly on the Resolution Calendar, rather than refer it to a committee, subject to appeal to the House.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 to place House Bill 20-103 on the Bill Calendar was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair recognized Representative Alice S. Igitol for the next introduction.*

*Representative Alice S. Igitol officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

#### **H. B. NO. 20-104**

Requiring mandatory sentences for third strike offenders in cases of serious and violent felonies.

**REP. ALICE S. IGITOL** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

*The Chair referred House Bill 20-104 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.*

*Representative Angel A. Demapan officially introduced the following House Bill:*

#### **H. B. NO. 20-105**

To make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 2018; and for other purposes.

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection, I would like to move that this bill be placed on calendar given that this is a product of the Committee on Ways and Means as we conducted budget hearings and deliberations and because we are cognizant that we

did not meet the requirement of the Open Government Act, we ask for its placement to remain on calendar no action today, but to be acted on the next session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

*Several members voiced “no objection”.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Chairman. With that let me recognize the Floor Leader for the suspension motion.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Again, Mr. Speaker. I would like to offer a motion that we suspend Rule IX, Section 8 to place House Bill 20-105 on Bill Calendar to be acted on our next House session.

## **RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 8. Referral of Bills and Resolutions**

(a) Bills and resolutions shall be read by title upon introduction and (except as provided in subsection (b), the Speaker shall refer such measures to an appropriate committee or to more than one committee, jointly or sequentially. The Clerk shall endorse such reference on the measure before duplication and shall enter such reference upon the Journal. In the case of error of reference, correction may be made by the House, with debate, immediately after the reading and approval of the Journal, by unanimous consent, or upon motion of either committee claiming jurisdiction or the committee to which the measure has been erroneously referred.

(b) The Speaker may place a resolution directly on the Resolution Calendar, rather than refer it to a committee, subject to appeal to the House.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 to place House Bill 20-105 on the Bill Calendar was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: House Bill 20-105 is placed on today’s Bill Calendar. Action will be taken on our next session and that will be on Monday. Are there any other bills for introduction? Recognize the Floor Leader.

*The Floor Leader officially introduced the following House Bill:*

### **H. B. NO. 20-106**

To preserve and designate Lot 345 R 512, situated in Rota, as “Joaquin Mesngon Ogo, Tun Kindu, Sports Complex Arena”; and for other purposes.

**REP. GLENN L. MARATITA** of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for himself*)

*The Chair will refer House Bill 20-106 on a later date and directed the members to House Local Bills and recognized Representative John Paul P. Sablan for the first introduction.*

### ***House Local Bills:***

*Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following House Local Bill:*

**H. L. B. NO. 20-31**

To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheets 20 and 24 of 29 to rezone certain lots from “Village Commercial” zoning districts to “Mixed Commercial” zoning districts.

**REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*)

*The Chair recognized Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita for the next introduction.*

*Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita officially introduced the following House Local Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:*

**H. L. B. NO. 20-32**

To appropriate \$150,000.00 from revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2, as amended, to the Northern Marianas Trades Institute; and for other purposes.

**REP. JANET U. MARATITA** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for herself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and Alice S. Igitol)

*The Chair recognized Edwin P. Aldan for the next introduction.*

*Representative Edwin P. Aldan officially introduced the following House Local Bill:*

**H. L. B. NO. 20-33**

To appropriate up to One Hundred Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Nine US Dollars (\$116,469.00) of the Earned Bond Interest Income collected for the Second Senatorial District that has been identified by the Commonwealth Development Authority as available for appropriations; and for other purposes.

**REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN** of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*)

*The Chair recognized Edwin P. Aldan for the next introduction.*

*Representative Edwin P. Aldan officially introduced the following House Local Bill:*

**H. L. B. NO. 20-34**

To appropriate Two Million US Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) specifically allotted to the Second Senatorial District under Public Law No. 18-56 for FY 2018; and for other purposes.

**REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN** of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*)

***House Legislative Initiatives: None***

*The Chair directed the members to item VI, Messages from the Governor and recognized the Clerk.*

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

***House Resolutions: None***



*House Joint Resolutions: None*

*House Commemorative Resolutions: None*

*House Concurrent Resolutions: None*

**MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**

*The Clerk announced the following Messages from the Governor:*

GOV. COMM. 20-45: (6/22/17 received 7/11/17) **Executive Order 2017-06** – Declaration of a State of Significant Emergency: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation’s Imminent Generation and other Failure and the Need to Provide Immediate Reliable Power, Water and Wastewater services.

GOV. COMM. 20-46: (7/19/17) Certifying and granting approval for Reuben Chong, Certified Substance Abuse Counselor for the Substance Abuse and Rehabilitation Program, under the Office of the Governor to receive an annual salary of \$55,000. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-47: (7/21/17) **Executive Order 2017-07** – Declaration of a State of Significant Emergency: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation’s Imminent Generation and other Failure and the Need to Provide Immediate Reliable Power, Water and Wastewater services.

GOV. COMM. 20-48: (7/24/17) Draft bill to appropriate \$16,296,263.89 to pay the outstanding judgement in *Commonwealth v. Lot No. 353 New G*, Civ. No. 97-0266.

GOV. COMM. 20-49: (7/24/17) Informing the House that he signed into law House Local Bill 20-24, D1, entitled, “To appropriate additional funds realized, specifically allotted to the Third Senatorial District under Public Law No. 18-30 as amended, for the CNMI Drug Court; and for other purposes,” which became Saipan Local Law No. 20-07.

GOV. COMM. 20-50: (7/26/17) Informing the House that he signed into law Senate Bill No. 20-14, HD1, entitled, “To amend 6 CMC § 2253, to limit the number of shooting gallery and shooting range; and for other purposes,” which became Public Law No. 20-03.

GOV. COMM. 20-51: (7/26/17) Informing the House that he signed into law House Local Bill 20-13, D1, entitled, “To amend the bulk, dimensional, and landscaping requirements in Article 5 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 for the Beach Road, Garapan East, Garapan Core, Industrial, Mixed Commercial, Public Resource, Rural and Village Commercial Zoning Districts,” which became Saipan Local Law No. 20-08.

GOV. COMM. 20-52: (7/28/17) Recommending that the available funds for appropriation in the amount of \$28,067,951 collected from the Saipan Casino Operator’s Business Gross Revenue Tax from Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) Inc. be considered to pay the outstanding judgement and interests in Land Compensation cases that have been identified by the CNMI Department of Finance, the CNMI Department of Public Lands and the Office of the Attorney General.

*There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item VII, Senate Communications and recognized the Floor Leader.*

## SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

*The Floor Leader made a motion to accept Senate Communications 20-26 to 20-34 so they may become property of the House.*

SEN. COMM. 20-26: (7/6/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-1, entitled, “To establish a Department of Revenue and Taxation; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on June 30, 2017. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-27: (7/6/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-8, SD1, entitled, “To enable the CNMI to participate in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education’s Professional Student Exchange Program; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on June 30, 2017. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-28: (7/6/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-42, SD1, entitled, “To amend 4 CMC § 2308 to clarify that the casino gross revenue tax funds are separate from the general fund; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on June 30, 2017. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-29: (7/11/17) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 20-3, entitled, “To amend Rule 8 of the Official Rules of the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature”, which was adopted by the Senate on June 30, 2017. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-30: (7/13/17) Transmitting for House action S. L. I. NO. 20-1, entitled, “To amend Article III, section 20(b) of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands to authorize reemployment of retirees as classroom teachers, doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals without losing their pension benefits for an unlimited period of time.”, which was passed by the Senate on July 11, 2017. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-31: (7/13/17) Informing the House that the Senate accepted the House amendments to S. B. NO. 20-14, HD1, (To amend 6 CMC § 2253, to limit the number of shooting gallery and shooting range; and for other purposes.) on July 11, 2017. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-32: (7/14/17) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 20-4, entitled, “To recognize and congratulate the 2017 Northern Marianas College Graduates: Gemmilie Eugenio, Lovely Lopez, Mika Sablan, and YuGeun Oh, on passing the National Council Licensure Examination for registered nurses.”, which was adopted by the Senate on July 11, 2017. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-33: (7/13/17) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 20-5, entitled, “To respectfully request that Secretary Ryan Zinke, U.S. Department of the Interior and Secretary Wilbur Ross, U.S. Department of Commerce, restore fishing and mineral resource extraction rights to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) that were taken through the proclamation establishing the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument; to recommend that the fishery management within the Marianas Trench National Marine Monument be returned to the Western Pacific

Regional Fishery Management Council as authorized by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act while mineral resource extraction be treated as other submerged lands found in the CNMI; and to convey disapproval of the establishment of any National Marine Sanctuary in the CNMI.”, which was adopted by the Senate on July 11, 2017. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-34: (7/14/17) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Joint Resolution No. 20-4, entitled, “To recognize Honorable Froilan Cruz Tenorio for his exceptional accomplishments and distinguished service to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”, which was adopted by the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. [*For info*]

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to accept Senate Communications 20-26 to 20-34 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: There are four for House action. I now recognize the Floor Leader for the placement relative to Senate Communication 20-27. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I would like to offer a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 so that we may place Senate Bill 20-8, SD1 on our Bill Calendar. So move.

## **RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 8. Referral of Bills and Resolutions**

(a) Bills and resolutions shall be read by title upon introduction and (except as provided in subsection (b), the Speaker shall refer such measures to an appropriate committee or to more than one committee, jointly or sequentially. The Clerk shall endorse such reference on the measure before duplication and shall enter such reference upon the Journal. In the case of error of reference, correction may be made by the House, with debate, immediately after the reading and approval of the Journal, by unanimous consent, or upon motion of either committee claiming jurisdiction or the committee to which the measure has been erroneously referred.

(b) The Speaker may place a resolution directly on the Resolution Calendar, rather than refer it to a committee, subject to appeal to the House.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 to place Senate Bill 20-8, SD1 on the Bill Calendar was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Senate Communication 20-27, referencing Senate Bill 20-8, SD1 is placed on today’s Bill Calendar. Let me take your attention to Senate Communication 20-26 that communication will be referred to JGO. Senate Communication 20-28 that communication is referred to Gaming. Last, Senate Communication 20-30 again will report to JGO. The other

communications is just for informational purposes. Thank you, members. Going down to item VIII appears to be only one. Item X, Communications from the Department and Agencies, Clerk.

### **HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS**

*No discussion on this part of the day's agenda.*

HSE. COMM. NO. 20-51: (7/26/17) From JGO Chairman Ivan A. Blanco informing the Speaker of the House that due to conflicting schedules, JGO member, Representative Glenn L. Maratita has been succeeded by Representative Jose I. Itibus as of July 20, 2017.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH**

None

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES**

*The Clerk announced the following Communications from the Department and Agencies:*

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 20-3: (7/28/17) From the Department of Finance, Secretary Larrisa Larson informing the House that the amount of \$28,067,951 collected from the Saipan Casino Operator's Business Gross Revenue Tax is available.

*There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item XI, Miscellaneous Communications and recognized the Clerk.*

### **MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS**

*The Clerk announced the following Miscellaneous Communications:*

MISC. COMM. 20-2: (7/17/17) From the CNMI Youth Congress Clerk Christine F. Castro transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Bill No. 16-01, entitled, "To prohibit any business establishment from selling any item to minors after each Senatorial District's designated curfew hours; and for other purposes," which was passed on July 15, 2017.

MISC. COMM. 20-3: (7/17/17) From the CNMI Youth Congress Clerk Christine F. Castro transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Resolution No. 16-02, entitled, "Respectfully urging the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation to reopen the dental clinic within the Rota Health Center to provide necessary dental care services to the people of Rota," which was passed on July 15, 2017.

*The Chair referred Miscellaneous Communication 20-2 to the Committee on Social and Human Services.*

*The Chair directed the members to item XII, Reports of Standing Committees and recognized the Clerk.*

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, we have six ready for House action.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Clerk. I now recognize the Floor Leader for the appropriate motion.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:*

**S. C. R. NO. 20-41**: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-76, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 4 CMC § 8210 Damage; Cost of Repairing and § 8212 (e) Civil Penalties.” *Your Committee on Public Utilities and Communications recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. NO. 20-76, HDI.*

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-41 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.*

*The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:*

**S. C. R. NO. 20-42**: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-63, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to require test firing of all firearms as a requirement for registration of a firearm.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. NO. 20-63, HSI.*

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-42 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.*

*The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:*

**S. C. R. NO. 20-43**: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-11, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to ban the use of plastic checkout bags; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Natural Resources recommends the House pass H. B. No. 20-11 in its current form.*

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-43 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.*

*The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:*

**S. C. R. NO. 20-44:** Reporting on H. B. No. 20-27, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 2 CMC §1645 to establish a penalty for businesses engaging in the act of destroying, harassing, or removing of wildlife or marine species within Bird Island and Forbidden Island sanctuaries; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Natural Resources recommends the House pass H. B. No. 20-27 in its current form.*

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-44 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.*

*The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:*

**S. C. R. NO. 20-45:** Reporting on H. B. No. 20-79, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to protect coral reefs through recovery of monetary damages resulting from vessel groundings and anchoring-related injuries, destructive fishing practices, and non-permitted taking of threatened species.” *Your Committee on Natural Resources recommends the House pass H. B. No. 20-79 in its current form.*

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-45 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.*

*The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:*

**S. C. R. NO. 20-46:** Reporting on S. B. No. 20-12, SD1, entitled: “A Bill for an Act To amend 2 CMC §§ 4308 and 4345(e), to authorize the Department of Public Lands to waive requirement that the homesteader must construct a home on the homestead upon a showing that the construction permit cannot be obtained because of the lack of power, water, or waste water infrastructure; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Natural Resources recommends the House pass S. B. No. 20-12, SD1 in its current form.*

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-46 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair directed the members to item XV, Resolution Calendar and recognized the Floor Leader.*

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**RESOLUTION CALENDAR**

*The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following:*

**H. RES. NO. 20-12**

A House Resolution to urge the United States Embassy to permit the reentry of the individuals identified herein because they have been granted a 240-day extension to stay in the CNMI during the processing of their CW permit by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

*The motion was seconded.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Before I proceed let me take the time to acknowledge our Minority Leader. Welcome.

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Resolution 20-12 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Chair directed the members to item XVI, Bill Calendar and called for a short recess.*

**BILL CALENDAR**

*The House recessed at 10:45 a.m.*

**RECESS**

*The House reconvened at 11:01 a.m.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess and prior to our recess we were on the Bill Calendar. First let me recognize the Floor Leader for the first motion.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On our Bill Calendar we have House Bill 20-103, but before I offer the motion for passage first I would like to offer two suspension motion so that we are in order. With that, I would like to offer a motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9, which is the committee report. I understand that this bill has been referred for action today. So, with that Mr. Speaker, so move.

**RULE VII. COMMITTEES GENERALLY****Section 9. Committee Reports; Other documents**

(a) Standing or Special Committees shall submit a written report to the Speaker within 60 days from the date the matter was referred to the committee, unless a shorter or longer time is ordered by the Speaker pursuant to a decision by the House Leadership. Subcommittees shall submit reports on matters referred to them as prescribed by the Standing Committee Chair. Standing, special and conference committees shall submit their reports in writing and provide an electronic copy to the Clerk who shall number the reports consecutively in the order received, cause such reports to be reviewed for legal sufficiency, reproduced, and furnished each member of the House at least twenty-four hours prior to the session at which it is to be considered. A committee report shall state findings of facts and conclusions based thereon together with a specific recommendation as to the manner in which the bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the committee should be disposed of by the House. A report recommending a bill or resolution for passage shall clearly state the purpose of the bill. A report on a bill or resolution shall show clearly any proposed amendments and the Clerk shall place such a bill or resolution on the appropriate calendar.

(b) A report shall be considered adopted by a committee when the Chairperson and a majority of the members of the committee have signed the report concurring therein. A member or members not concurring in the report of the majority may so indicate by submitting a minority report which shall be attached to the committee report or by signing with "I do not concur".

(c) When a committee recommends that a bill or resolution be formally filed (indefinitely postponed), the recommendation is reported to the House floor as a committee report to be confirmed by majority vote. Adoption of the committee report by the members has the effect of officially filing the bill.

(d) When, by majority vote, the House adopts a committee report recommending favorable action on a bill or resolution, the bill or resolution as reported by the committee shall be placed on the appropriate calendar for House floor action.

(e) All documents, testimonies, or other evidence submitted to any standing or special committee or subcommittee in connection with any matter referred to the committee or subcommittee shall be the property of the House. The Chair of any committee or subcommittee shall deliver all such documents, testimonies, or other evidence to the House Clerk upon expiration of the term of the House. Such documents, testimonies or other evidence may be attached to committee reports as supporting documents.

*The motion was seconded.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Floor Leader. Again, your motion has been seconded, discussion on that motion? Recognize Chairman Angel Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning when we suspended the rule to include additional communications not previously included in our agenda – one of those communications is Governor's Communication 20-52, which identifies available amounts of \$28,067, 951.00 as available funds from the Casino Operator's Business Gross Revenue Tax account. In this communication the Governor identifies in addition to the \$16.2 Million Dollars for the Commonwealth versus Lot No. 353 New-G. The Governor identifies other estates that are the highest accruing interest estates and land compensation judgements that currently are outstanding by the government and owed to the heirs. Mr. Speaker, this includes \$2.9 Million in Marianas Public Lands Authority versus the Heirs of Rita Rogolifoi that includes \$858,000 in Lizama versus the Department of Public Lands. It also includes \$509,000 for the Estate of Muna versus the Commonwealth and it includes \$83,000 in the case of Commonwealth versus Lot No.



218-5 R/W. Mr. Speaker in consideration of these additional judgements that are being requested to be funded in the identified revenues of \$28 Million Dollars I am offering a substitute bill to House Bill 20-103 to include these additional estate judgements so that if passed we save the government from accruing about \$1 Million Dollars in interest alone every year. By way of this substitute Mr. Speaker, the total appropriation now comes out to \$20,713,572.03. Mr. Speaker this substitute bill is so offered.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Chair but before we recognize that motion we would have to first dispose of this motion and that is to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and when we do that then you would have to introduce that. Again, Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Yes, Mr. Speaker if I may. Again, can I just point out that I actually offered two suspension motion. So the first is for Rule VII, Section 9 and subsequent suspension would be Rule IX, Section 9 and 10. So if we can get that out of the before we accept the substitute then I think we will be in order.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Well noted. Your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion?

*Several members voiced “ready”.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: You may proceed Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: At this time, I would like to offer a motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10. So move.

## **RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 9. First Reading of Bills and Resolutions**

(a) When a bill or resolution is read in the House the first time, the Clerk shall report the bill by title, unless a majority orders it read in full, or by such subdivisions as the motion to read may indicate. The House shall then proceed to debate the measure, and amendments shall be in order. At the conclusion of a debate the House shall vote on passing the measure on First Reading after affording an opportunity for one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Measure passes with amendments, the Clerk shall engross such amendments and cause the measure, or any page thereof, to be reprinted as provided in Sections 4 and 6 of this Rule. *[Note: Rule IX, Section 9, amended by H. RES. 20-4]*

(b) The First Reading of a bill without amendment shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

(c) If a bill passes First Reading with amendment, the Clerk shall place it on the Bill Calendar for Second Reading the next legislative day.

(d) First Reading of a resolution shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

**Section 10. Second Reading of Bills**

(a) When a bill is read in the House a second time, it shall be considered in the same manner as for First Reading, except that no further amendments shall be in order. [Note: Rule IX, Section 10, amended by H. RES. 20-4]

(b) Second Reading of a bill shall be the final reading, and upon its passage, which shall be by Call of the Roll, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Again, recognize Floor Leader.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**H. B. NO. 20-103**

To appropriate \$16,296,263.89 to pay the judgment in Commonwealth vs. Lot No. 353 New-G et al, Civil Case No. 97-0266.

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

*The motion was seconded.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Floor Leader. Again, your motion was seconded. Discussion on the motion? Recognize Chairman Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the reasons that I stated earlier, I am now officially offering a substitute bill for House Bill 20-103 in the form of House Bill 20-103, HS1.

*The motion was seconded.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Chairman. You still have the floor.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just submitted the substitute version and it is being copied now for distribution to the members.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Can we have a short recess until the copies are passed out. Short recess.

*The House recessed at 11:08 a.m.*

**RECESS**

*The House reconvened at 11:27 a.m.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess. Now I give back the floor to Chairman Angel. Chairman Angel, can I ask that you restate your motion?

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have stated earlier, I am offering House Bill 20-103, HS1 to take into account the new figures provided by the Governor in his communication 20-52 and for the inclusion of other estates, judgments that are accruing the highest interest rate against the government. With that regard Mr. Speaker, this new substitute bill will appropriate the following amounts: \$16,291,763.36 is appropriated for Commonwealth versus Lot No. 353 New-G. Mr. Speaker, I have just got off the phone with the Secretary of Finance and with the Governor and the amount of \$16,291,763.36 is the updated amount and that is what is reflected in the substitute bill. Because of the change in calculation of compounding interest due to an earlier cut-off date in which this estate is going to be paid off. So that is the explanation for the Five -Thousand Dollar difference in the previously noted figure in the original version of the bill. The substitute version Mr. Speaker also includes \$2,970,534.57 in MPLA versus the Heirs of Rita Rogolifoi. Another \$858,533.21 for Lizama versus Department of Public Lands. The substitute version also includes \$509,234.81 for the Estate of Muna versus the Commonwealth. Finally, the inclusion of \$83,553.08 for Commonwealth versus Lot No. 218-5 R/W. Mr. Speaker, this substitute version is so offered.

*The motion was seconded.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Chairman. Your motion has been seconded. Discussion of that motion. First let me recognize Representative Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Chairman, I just wanted to note on your recent bill this House Substitute 1 on page 2, line 17 it says, "\$16,291,736.36" I think it is a typo it should read 763. Page 2, line 17. It says 736.36 it should be reflecting 763.36. So I just wanted to make that technical if you can correct that.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Recognize the Chairman again.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is correct and if our Legal Counsel can clarify that we can treat that as technical?

Legal Counsel John Cool: Yes treat that as a technical.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Counsel. Representative Propst we will consider it as technical. Recognize Chairman Barcinas.

Representative Donald C. Barcinas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield for now it's the same issue.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Recognize Representative Attao.

Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First and foremost, I would like to extend our thank you to the Governor for looking at different avenues to finalize all

these land obligations that are judgements in front of the courts right now. I understand that the transmittal letter of \$28,067,951.00 is coming from the BGRT collections. I guess it is more of a question to the Legal Counsel. Would this be an over expenditure for 2017?

Legal Counsel John Cool: I don't understand the question in respect to over expenditures.

Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao: We've adopted a concurrent resolution that set our ceiling for distribution and appropriations under 2017, which we amended a few months ago to include the other BGRT collections for distributions to all the entities that were listed under 1856 and other obligations of the Commonwealth government. Would these be monies under BGRT that would have to increase our concurrent resolution or would this fall under the 100% reprogramming authority that our Governor has under the current budget of 2017.

Legal Counsel John Cool: My opinion that an amended concurrent resolution will not be required.

Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao: May I ask why Counsel? I only ask this because during the last appropriations of the BGRT collections when standalone legislations were presented on the floor your legal opinion was that we needed a concurrent resolution to lift our expenditures for 2017 at the time.

Legal Counsel John Cool: I don't recall that. I recall that there were some proposals to appropriate the casino BGRT prior to the communication from the Governor or Finance that there was funding available that have actually been collected. The appropriation under 1803 actually requires that the funds actually be collected prior to them being appropriated.

Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao: 1803? Sorry, Counsel I am not following.

Legal Counsel John Cool: 4 CMC 2308.

Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao: So we don't need to change our expenditures under the concurrent resolution for 2017? I am just asking, I mean there's ways of doing it. Obviously, the court system hasn't taken away the legislative authority of appropriating money or directing the \$16 Million Dollars or the total amount that is being appropriated in its current legislation away from the legislature and just distribute the funds that are collected under the BGRT. If that's the case, what monies are we appropriating as a legislature, as a legislative body. Is it the BGRT that would increase our expenditures or is the 100% reprogramming authority that the Governor has currently in 2017? If it's the 100% reprogramming authority then it makes a whole lot of sense because he has that authority. Go ahead Counsel, sorry.

Legal Counsel John Cool: Yes, it would be a combination of both because he has not given us a supplemental message identifying additional resources above those which were previously identified that would trigger additional concurrent resolution. What he's doing is telling us that funds have been received, which are available for payment. He has 100% reprogramming authority. If the funds are still available he can reallocate among the appropriate accounts so that they would be available for expenditure. The only difference is that when we get to payment of

judgements we have that special law that requires an appropriation before judgements can be claimed.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Counsel. If it’s the Governor’s 100% reprogramming authority under 2017 then we shouldn’t have a problem. My concern is now that the \$28 Million Dollars that is under BGRT should the remittal letter of the BGRT be extended to the Legislature should be at the minimum at \$28,067,951.00 or whatever additional funds that were collected under the BGRT. Just with that Mr. Speaker, we thank the Governor again for finding the resources and using his 100% reprogramming authority in exhausting the obligations of the CNMI Government to the families that are owed with land compensation judgements. With that I rest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Attao. Further discussion?

*Several members voiced “ready”.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the substitute bill offered by Representative Angel A. Demapan was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Again, recognize the Floor Leader for the main motion.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**H. B. NO. 20-103, HS1**

To appropriate payment for the outstanding judgement and interest in land compensation cases.

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

*The motion was seconded.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Floor Leader. Again your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that main motion?

*Several members voiced “ready”.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Clerk for the roll call.

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-103 House Substitute 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	abstain
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, 19 members voted “yes” and 1 member abstained.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With 19 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-103, HS1 hereby passes the House. Thank you, members. Recognize the Floor Leader again.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next on our Bill Calendar we have House Bill 20-99 and again so that we are in order, I would like to offer two suspension motion. With that I would like to offer to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and that is the committee report. So offered.

## **RULE VII. COMMITTEES GENERALLY**

### **Section 9. Committee Reports; Other documents**

(a) Standing or Special Committees shall submit a written report to the Speaker within 60 days from the date the matter was referred to the committee, unless a shorter or longer time is ordered by the Speaker pursuant to a decision by the House Leadership. Subcommittees shall submit reports on matters referred to them as prescribed by the Standing Committee Chair. Standing, special and conference committees shall submit their reports in writing and provide an electronic copy to the Clerk who shall number the reports consecutively in the order received, cause such reports to be reviewed for legal sufficiency, reproduced, and furnished each member of the House at least twenty-four hours prior to the session at which it is to be considered. A committee report shall state findings of facts and conclusions based thereon together with a specific recommendation as to the manner in which the bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the committee should be disposed of by the House. A report recommending a bill or resolution for passage shall clearly state the purpose of the bill. A report on a bill or resolution shall show clearly any proposed amendments and the Clerk shall place such a bill or resolution on the appropriate calendar.

(b) A report shall be considered adopted by a committee when the Chairperson and a majority of the members of the committee have signed the report concurring therein. A member or members not concurring in the report of the majority may so indicate by submitting a minority report which shall be attached to the committee report or by signing with "I do not concur".

(c) When a committee recommends that a bill or resolution be formally filed (indefinitely postponed), the recommendation is reported to the House floor as a committee report to be confirmed by majority vote. Adoption of the committee report by the members has the effect of officially filing the bill.

(d) When, by majority vote, the House adopts a committee report recommending favorable action on a bill or resolution, the bill or resolution as reported by the committee shall be placed on the appropriate calendar for House floor action.

(e) All documents, testimonies, or other evidence submitted to any standing or special committee or subcommittee in connection with any matter referred to the committee or subcommittee shall be the property of the House. The Chair of any committee or subcommittee shall deliver all such documents, testimonies, or other evidence to the House Clerk upon expiration of the term of the House. Such documents, testimonies or other evidence may be attached to committee reports as supporting documents.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The second motion will be to suspend Rule IX, Section 9 and Section 10. So move.

## **RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 9. First Reading of Bills and Resolutions**

(a) When a bill or resolution is read in the House the first time, the Clerk shall report the bill by title, unless a majority orders it read in full, or by such subdivisions as the motion to read may indicate. The House shall then proceed to debate the measure, and amendments shall be in order. At the conclusion of a debate the House shall vote on passing the measure on First Reading after affording an opportunity for one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Measure passes with amendments, the Clerk shall engross such amendments and cause the measure, or any page thereof, to be reprinted as provided in Sections 4 and 6 of this Rule. [*Note: Rule IX, Section 9, amended by H. RES. 20-4*]

(b) The First Reading of a bill without amendment shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

(c) If a bill passes First Reading with amendment, the Clerk shall place it on the Bill Calendar for Second Reading the next legislative day.

(d) First Reading of a resolution shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

### **Section 10. Second Reading of Bills**

(a) When a bill is read in the House a second time, it shall be considered in the same manner as for First Reading, except that no further amendments shall be in order. [*Note: Rule IX, Section 10, amended by H. RES. 20-4*]

(b) Second Reading of a bill shall be the final reading, and upon its passage, which shall be by Call of the Roll, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**H. B. NO. 20-99**

To amend 4 CMC §2308 to clarify that the casino gross revenue tax funds are separate from the general fund; and for other purposes.

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion; the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-99 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-99 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader, can we go ahead and entertain two more bills and then we will call for an adjournment. We will definitely have another session next week. First, we will tackle on the budget and then we will have another session, but today I would like to request the members that we act on two bills before we – and that is one is the House Bill 20-11 and Senate Bill 20-8, SD1. Floor Leader recognized.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*



**H. B. No. 20-11**

A Bill for an Act to ban the use of plastic checkout bags; and for other purposes. [S. C.

**R. NO. 20-43]***The motion was seconded.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Floor Leader. Again your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Vinny Sablan.

Representative Vinson Edward F. Sablan: Thank you, Speaker. Won't be long. I would like to thank the Natural Resources Committee for their work. The findings got out in the bill and the report spells out all the benefits. This legislative history on the movement, this movement was introduced in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Legislature, both Houses passed the bill and both times got stuck in the Senate. So we are hoping that this version which has evolved you know we will get support of the Senate. We have appropriated \$2 Million Dollars for the Marpi landfill process to prepare cell 3 or the other cells as we finish cell 1. Hopefully this bill it aims to encourage the change in behavior of how our community deals with their waste. We see the continued rise in development and population. We should anticipate an increase in waste that is disposed at our landfill and also around our islands in remote areas via illegal dumping. For the stores out there if you're watching this law will take effect one-year after it is signed into law if so. So you do have time to use all your bags. The bill also covers plastic checkout bags at the point of sale, so you would still have your other bags which is spelled out in the bill as well. Also most importantly this also puts us in play with other pacific island nations that are making positive environmental moves and actions. So this is a plus for us. I would like to say that the fruits of this movement will be seen as our behaviors change. I know change is hard, but this is coming to the preserve and save our environment. So with that said, Mr. Speaker I am hoping to get the support of the House and most importantly the Senate and the Administration. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Sablan. Further discussion? Ready. Clerk for the roll call.

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-11 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes

Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Clerk. With all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-11 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Mr. Speaker, can we take a very short recess?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Short recess.

*The House recessed at 11:48 a.m.*

*RECESS*

*The House reconvened at 11:49 a.m.*

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Back from our recess. Floor Leader.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**S. B. NO. 20-8, SD1**

To enable the CNMI to participate in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education’s Professional Student Exchange Program; and for other purposes. [SEN. COMM. 20-27]

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion; the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of Senate Bill 20-8, Senate Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes

Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all 20 members voting in the affirmative, Senate Bill 20-8, SD1 passes the House. Floor Leader.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**H. B. No. 20-76, HD1**

A Bill for an Act to amend 4 CMC § 8210 Damage; Cost of Repairing and § 8212 (e) Civil Penalties.” [S. C. R. NO. 20-41]

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion; the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-76, House Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-76, HD1 passes the House. Vice Speaker, recognized.

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Mr. Speaker, if we can take care of Standing Committee Report 20-45, House Bill 20-79?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Vice Speaker. Floor Leader you want to – recognized.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I also request that we also act on Senate Bill 20-12, the Homestead Act? Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Floor Leader why don't you do the next motion on 20-79.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**H. B. No. 20-79**

A Bill for an Act to protect coral reefs through recovery of monetary damages resulting from vessel groundings and anchoring-related injuries, destructive fishing practices, and non-permitted taking of threatened species. [S. C. R. NO. 20-45]

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion; the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-79 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-79 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**S. B. No. 20-12, SD1**

A Bill for an Act To amend 2 CMC §§ 4308 and 4345(e), to authorize the Department of Public Lands to waive requirement that the homesteader must construct a home on the

homestead upon a showing that the construction permit cannot be obtained because of the lack of power, water, or waste water infrastructure; and for other purposes. [**S. C. R. NO. 20-46**]

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion; the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of Senate Bill 20-12, Senate Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. Again with all 20 members voting in the affirmative, Senate Bill 20-12, SD1 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader, spirit of moving forward why don’t we just go ahead and finish.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**H. B. No. 20-27**

A Bill for an Act to amend 2 CMC §1645 to establish a penalty for businesses engaging in the act of destroying, harassing, or removing of wildlife or marine species within Bird Island and Forbidden Island sanctuaries; and for other purposes. [**S. C. R. NO. 20-44**]

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion; the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-27 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-27, hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

*The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following on First and Final Reading:*

**H. B. No. 20-63, HS1**

A Bill for an Act to require test firing of all firearms as a requirement for registration of a firearm.” [S. C. R. NO. 20-42]

*The motion was seconded.*

*There was no discussion; the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.*

*The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-63, House Substitute 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:*

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes

Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Again, with all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-63, HS1 passes the House. Clerk, did we act on House Bill 20-76?

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Yes.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. I guess that took care of the Bill Calendar. Moving down to Miscellaneous Business, recognize the Vice Speaker.

*No action taken on the following:*

**H. B. NO. 20-105**

To make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 2018; and for other purposes.

**REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Thank you, Speaker. Speaker and members, I would just like to actually applaud and commend the Standing Committee Chairs for really working hard in ensuring that each bill introduced is attained to and in particular I would also like to actually commend my – our good colleague Congresswoman Igitol for insuring that she is attending to the minority bills. In particular, Representative Vinson Sablan and Representative Propst her work really is an indication that in this body we should all work together for the common good of our people. Also, I would like to note that the Senate Bills are also being acted on and in this comradery and in the spirit of working for our people. I sincerely hope that the Senate will also look into the House Bills that is being sent over for their actions. Again, Mr. Speaker and members, let us continue to work together for the good of our people. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Vice Speaker. Just a note, movers of bills, please make a point to also work with the respective chairs so that the committee can do its due diligence. I thought I'd mention that so that we move legislations. Going down, further discussion on Miscellaneous? If none, going down to XVIII, Announcement?

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: First, I issued out a notice already that we are going to have a session on Monday, 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The session is strictly just to entertain the fiscal year budget. So I hope that members be present on that day. It is a very crucial and perhaps the most important legislation. So I thought I would mention that. Further? None. Floor Leader.

## ADJOURNMENT

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, I offer a motion that we adjourn subject to your call.

*The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.*

*The House adjourned at 12:04 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Venetia S. Rosario  
House Journal Clerk

## APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS

**FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative appearance of a local bill is on the day it is introduced.

**SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY:**

H. L. B. NO. 20-29: To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheets 05 of 29 to rezone certain lots from “Rural” zoning districts to “Tourist Resort” zoning districts. Introduced by: REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017.

H. L. B. NO. 20-30: To amend the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989 to provide for internet gaming; to amend casino license fee and tax rate; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017.

**THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:**

H. L. B. NO. 20-18: To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheet 06 of 29, rezoning lots 141 E 02 and 141 E 05 from “Village Residential” to “Tourist Resort” Zoning District. Introduced by REP. ALICE S. IGITOL of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for herself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, and John Paul P. Sablan) on June 27, 2017.

H. L. B. NO. 20-27: To amend 10 CMC §3132 Gross Laden Weight Fee and §3136 Saipan Village and Secondary Road Fund; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. LORENZO I. DELEON GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*) on June 27, 2017.

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*Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on July 6, 2017:*

H. B. NO. 20-93: To amend 1 CMC §8250(e) by including the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to be exempted from the salary limitations imposed by the Compensation Adjustment Act as amended. Introduced REP. JOSEPH LEE PAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.



H. B. NO. 20-94: To improve the statutory language for the Marianas Visitors Authority. Introduced by REP. JOSEPH LEE PAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

H. B. NO. 20-95: To establish the Office of Probation Supervision and to clarify the powers and responsibilities of the office and its divisions; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JOSEPH LEE PAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[Added-7/6/17] H. B. NO. 20-96: To amend 1 CMC §2264 to ensure that the Board of Education members receive compensation for committee meetings, which are vital to the development of policy and the functioning of the Public School System. Introduced by REP. JOSEPH LEE PAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Education.

[Added-7/6/17] H. L. B. NO. 20-29: To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheets 05 of 29 to rezone certain lots from “Rural” zoning districts to “Tourist Resort” zoning districts. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017.

[Added-7/6/17] H. L. B. NO. 20-30: To amend the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989 to provide for internet gaming; to amend casino license fee and tax rate; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on July 6, 2017.

H. L. I. NO. 20-1: To amend Article XI, Section 6(d), “Marianas Public Land Trust,” of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution. Introduced by REP. ALICE S. IGITOL of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for herself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Janet U. Maratita, and Gregorio M. Sablan Jr.) on July 6, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

H. RES. NO. 20-11: To recognize and acknowledge the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and the Guam-CNMI Committee and their volunteer members for their exceptional service and commitment to our service men and women by recognizing the week of August 14th through August 18th, 2017, as “Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week”.

Introduced by REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on July 6, 2017; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

[Added-7-6-17] H. RES. NO. 20-12: To urge the United States Embassy to permit the reentry of the individuals identified herein because they have been granted a 240-day extension to stay in the CNMI during the processing of their CW permit by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. Introduced by REP. JOSE I. ITIBUS of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Rafael S. Demapan, Alice S. Igitol, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on July 6, 2017; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

H. J. R. NO. 20-6: To support the Petition for Certiorari and the appeal of the Ninth Circuit decision in *Davis v. CNMI Election Commission et al*, and support the notion that the term “NMD” as used by CNMI Constitution Article XII and Article XVIII is a political as opposed to a racial term. Introduced by REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on July 6, 2017; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

C. RES. NO. 20-8: To convey our sincere condolences and sympathy to the bereaved family of the late Honorable Gardner Delos Santos Barcinas on his untimely passing and pay tribute to his unwavering service to the people of the

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, most especially to the island of Rota. Introduced by REP. GLENN L. MARATITA of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on July 6, 2017; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

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*House information on deadlines for override: None*