



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 2023

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

2nd Day, First Regular Session

Friday, February 3, 2023

The House of Representatives of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its Second Day, First Regular Session on Friday, February 3, 2023 at 2:05 p.m., in the House Chamber on Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Honorable Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez, Speaker of the House, presided.

A moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL

The Chair recognized the Clerk.

The Clerk called the roll and all twenty members were present.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule III, Section 6.

RULE III. SESSIONS AND MEETINGS.

Section 6. Notice of Sessions.

Not less than 72 hours prior to convening a Regular or Special Session, the Speaker or a majority of the members of the House, shall file a written public notice of the date, time, and place of a session with the Clerk and post the same at the executive branch administration building and the Legislature's web site. When possible, notices under this section shall be given to at least one newspaper of general circulation. Notices shall contain an agenda of items to be considered at the session. Final disposition shall not be taken on any other matter at such session. Once filed as part of this notice, and agenda may only be changed by adding items thereto by the recorded vote of the majority of the members of the House.

The motion was seconded.

The Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to suspend Rule III, Section 6 with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Vincent Raymond S. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Roman C. Benavente	yes
Representative Angelo A. Camacho	yes
Representative Diego Vincent F. Camacho	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Marissa R. Flores	yes
Representative Thomas John D.C. Manglona	yes
Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

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

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With all 20 members voting “yes,” the motion hereby carries. Thank you, colleagues. We now move down to Public Comments. Please state your name and the entity you represent. In addition, if you would like, you can also submit your written comments to the Clerk for our record. You’ll be given 3-minutes and we’ll be amenable to adding more time should no other person comment after you. So, please the podium is open.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individuals made comments:

Mr. Manuel Pangelinan, Director of the Fish and Wildlife
 Ms. Erlinda Naputi, Director of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library
 Ms. Sonia Camacho, Director of Courts for the CNMI Judiciary

The Chair directed the members to item III, Adoption of Journals and recognized the Clerk.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

The Clerk announced the following House Journal:

First Day, First Regular Session Journal - January 9, 2023

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the First Day, First Regular Session Journal - January 9, 2023.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the First Day, First Regular Session Journal – January 9, 2023 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, members. We now move down to item IV, and just a little note, before we move forward there will be certain bills that will be moved to the calendar and I will ask the Floor Leader after all bills have been introduced to make the proper motion. Okay? Thank you. I'd like to now recognize Representative Marissa Flores.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Bills:

Representative Marissa R. Flores: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. If there's no objection today, I'd like to place H.B. 23-1 – sorry.

Representative Marissa R. Flores officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-1

To amend 7 CMC §4101 to lower the interest rate of civil money judgments from nine percent (9%) to three percent (3%).

REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

Representative Marissa R. Flores: May I also ask the Floor Leader to amend the rule so that I can respectfully ask this body to place 23-1 on today's calendar.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Flores. This is noted. And as I mentioned earlier, we will introduce all bills and then make the proper motion at a later time. Thank you. I now would like to recognize Representative Roman Benavente for the withdrawal of his house bill. Representative Benavente.

Representative Roman C. Benavente: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have House Bill 22-2 to establish a transfer station with regards to Kagman and Kobler with regards to southern sector. I would like, Mr. Speaker, to recall this bill. There is a pre-existing law already with regards to the bill. The Public Law is 19-52 and the bill was introduced from 19-11. Mr. Speaker, with that in effect, I would like to ask the Speaker to recall this bill back. Thank you.

H. B. NO. 23-2

To require the Department of Public Works to establish a solid waste transfer stations in Kagman and the southern portion of the Island of Saipan; and for other purposes.

REP. ROMAN C. BENAVENTE of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself,*
Representative Manny G.T. Castro)
(WITHDRAWN)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Benavente. So, noted. You still have the floor.

Representative Roman C. Benavente officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-3

To impose a toll fee to be paid by passengers who enter the Marpi area; and for other purposes.

REP. ROMAN C. BENAVENTE of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Benavente. House Bill 23-3 will be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. I now recognize Representative Ralph Yumul.

Representative Ralph N. Yumul officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-4

To establish a process for the delivery of a State of the Commonwealth Address to the Legislature by the Governor.

REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)

Representative Ralph N. Yumul: I offer all members to please sign on to this bill as this bill was passed overwhelmingly in the House in the last legislature. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Yumul. I now recognize Representative Denita Yangetmai.

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-5

To amend 2 CMC §§ 5631 and 5109 to authorize gill net, locally known as “tekking” in the Third Senatorial District and provide additional penalties for any violations.

REP. DENITA K. YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES)

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai: I welcome anyone else who want to support this.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Yangetmai. House Bill 23-5 will also be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. Recognize Representative John Paul Sablan.

Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following bills:

H. B. NO. 23-6

To amend 4 CMC § 8112 to prioritize net metering to include public libraries; and for other purposes.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Marissa R. Flores, Edwin K. Propst, and Ralph N. Yumul)

H. B. NO. 23-7

To amend 4 CMC §1401(d) to increase revenues by properly taxing tobacco products.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Marissa R. Flores, and Ralph N. Yumul)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative John Paul Sablan. House Bill 23-7 will be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. I now recognize again, Representative Denita Yangetmai.

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-8

To require all contractors to be licensed in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS)

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai: Prefiled by myself and anyone else who want join in. May I continue Speaker?

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Please proceed.

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-9

To require legislative appropriation for all non-locally-sourced funds allocated for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS AND JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS)

Representative Denita K. Yangetmai: Pre-filed by myself and I invite others to also join in. Thank you, Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Yangetmai. House Bill 23-8 will be referred to the Committee on JGO and House Bill 23-9 will be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and JGO as well. Thank you. I now recognize Representative John Paul Sablan.

Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-10

To amend 8 CMC §1204, as amended by Public Law 22-25, to create an exemption to the requirement that a marriage certificate include the “places of residence”.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Malcom J. Omar, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

The Chair recognized Representative Vicente C. Camacho:

Representative Vicente C. Camacho officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-11

To amend Title 1, Division 8 of the Commonwealth Code by establishing a Veterans’ Preference employment provision for the CNMI Government; and for other purposes.

REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 3 *(for himself)*

(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS)

Representative Vicente C. Camacho: Pre-filed by myself and I welcome others to sponsor. May I proceed?

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Please proceed.

Representative Vicente C. Camacho officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-12

To amend 1 CMC § 7831 to provide for direct legislative appropriation to the Office of the Public Auditor, and for other purposes.

REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 3 *(for himself)*

(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS)

Representative Vicente C. Camacho: Pre-filed by myself. And I welcome others to sponsor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Chair referred House Bill 23-11 to the Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs and House Bill 23-12 to the Committee on Ways and Means and recognized Representative Marissa R. Flores.

Representative Marissa R. Flores officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-13

To amend the Crimes and Criminal Procedure Code definition of dangerous weapon and serious bodily injury.

REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 *(for herself)*

(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS)

Representative Marissa R. Flores: Introduced by myself and I'm also, I'm opening this bill to be supported by members of this body if they do so please.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Marissa. Go ahead and proceed. You still have the floor.

Representative Marissa R. Flores officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-14

To amend the punishment for the crime of vandalism to include the option of confinement.

REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS)

The Chair referred House Bills 23-13 and 23-14 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and recognized Representative Vicente C. Camacho.

Representative Vicente C. Camacho officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-15

To amend Title 6 of the Commonwealth Code by adding a new Chapter to enact provisions associated with public corruption, other unlawful influence and related offenses for public officials; and for other purposes.

REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS)

Representative Vicente C. Camacho: This bill was passed in the 22nd Legislature and made it to the Senate, but there was no time for the Senate to entertain it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Chair referred House Bill 23-15 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and recognized Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro.

Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-16

To reduce start-up costs for small businesses.

REP. MANNY GREGORY T. CASTRO of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*),
Representatives Vincent R. S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, John Paul P. Sablan,
Edmund J. S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manny Castro. I'll assign your bill at a later time. Anymore unnumbered bills? Recognize Representative John Paul Sablan.

Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following bill:

H. B. NO. 23-17

To provide clarity relative to the crime of promoting prison contraband, or otherwise known as the Contraband Reform Act of 2023; and for other purposes.

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

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative John Paul. These two bills will be referred at a later time. Anymore house bills?

Several members voiced "ready."

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: I now recognize the Floor Leader for the suspension of rules to place certain bills on today's calendar for action. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I offer a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8, Referral of Bills and Resolutions, to place House Bill 23-1, House Bill 23-4, House Bill 23-6 and House Bill 23-10 on today's 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 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: We now move down to House Local Bills and I recognize Representative BJ Attao.

House Local Bills:

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao officially introduced the following legislation:

H. L. B. NO. 23-1

To appropriate \$800,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59; and for other purposes.

REP. BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Malcom J. Omar, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS)

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Introduced by myself and several others and open for any other member from the Third Senatorial District to co-sponsor the legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Attao. And of course, based on our House Rules, any local bill under – that deals with appropriations on the local delegation level will be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. I recognize Representative Patrick San Nicolas.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas officially introduced the following bill:

H. L. B. NO. 23-2

To appropriate \$68,000.00 from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.

REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative San Nicolas and likewise House Local Bill 23-2 will be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. I now recognize Representative Julie Ogo.

Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo officially introduced the following bills:

H. L. B. NO. 23-3

To appropriate up to \$199,674.79 of the Earned Bond Interest Income collected for the First Senatorial District that has been identified by the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority as available for appropriations; and for other purposes.

REP. JULIE MARIE A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*)
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS)

H. L. B. NO. 23-4

To amend 10 CMC §14106 to amend the Rota Resident Identification Card fee; and for other purposes.

REP. JULIE MARIE A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Julie Ogo, House Local Bill 23-3 will be going to the Committee on Ways and Means. Thank you. Any other House Local Bills? Ready? Okay. Thank you, colleagues. We have nothing under House Legislative Initiatives, we're now moving down to item V, Introduction of Resolutions and I recognize Representative John Paul Sablan.

House Legislative Initiatives: None

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

House Resolutions:

Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following resolution:

H. RES. NO. 23-2

Respectfully requesting the Secretary of the Department of Public Works (DPW) to negotiate and certify the compensation or land exchange for the taking of a private property adjacent to the Susupe social hall and basketball court area in Susupe, Saipan for public purposes.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 and **REP. MANNY G. T. CASTRO** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for themselves*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Edwin K. Propst, and Ralph N. Yumul)

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Mr. Speaker, just point of clarification.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Yes, recognize Representative Attao.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: If there's no objection from the author of the resolution, would he be amenable that we introduce this as a committee of the whole?

Representative John Paul P. Sablan: No objection. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Thank you for that Representative Attao and Representative John Paul Sablan, House Resolution 23-2 is now hereby introduced by the Committee of the Whole and will be placed on today's calendar for action. I now recognize Representative Julie Ogo.

Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo officially introduced the following resolution:

H. RES. NO. 23-3

To encourage the Honorable Governor Arnold I. Palacios and the Honorable Lieutenant Governor David M. Apatang to officially adopt a general policy to prevent the employment of people from being used as a personal political tool by freezing the hiring of nonessential employees with or without Number of Positions (NOP) provided in a budget enacted by the CNMI Legislature 180 days leading up to an election.

REP. JULIE MARIE A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*)

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Ogo. House Resolution 23-3 will be referred to the Committee on JGO. Thank you, colleagues.

House Joint Resolutions: None

House Commemorative Resolutions: None

House Concurrent Resolutions: None

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

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Clerk announced the following Messages from the Governor:

GOV. COMM. 23-1: (1/6/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 22-79, HS1, SS1, (*To comply with federal law regarding motor vehicle safety and other standards, Including allowing for right-hand drive vehicles that are 25 years or older to be imported and registered in the CNMI; to allow the continued registration of motor vehicles already in the CNMI but otherwise not in compliance with federal law; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 23-26** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-2: (received 1/9/2023) **Executive Order 2023-01 – RENEWAL–Declaration of State of Public Health Emergency and continued Declaration of State of Significant Emergency establishing response, quarantine, and preventive containment measures concerning coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); and RENEWAL–Order directing the Homeland Security & Emergency Management Office through the CNMI**

COVID-19 Task Force in partnership with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation to undertake necessary COVID-19 containment measures by means of the development of Emergency Directives to protect the health and safety of the public.

GOV. COMM. 23-3: (1/20/2023) Informing the House that he vetoed H. L. B. No. 22-44, D1, *(To appropriate \$344,000.00 from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.)*. [For info]

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

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following Senate Communications:

SEN. COMM. 23-1: (1/9/2023) From the Senate President re: *appointment of the 23rd Senate Standing Committee Chairpersons*. [For Info]

SEN. COMM. 23-2: (1/12/2023) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 23-01, entitled, *“To adopt the Interim Rules of the Senate for the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.”*, which was adopted by the Senate on January 9, 2023. [For info]

The Floor Leader made a motion to accept Senate Communications 23-1 and 23-2 so they may become property of the House.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to accept Senate Communications 23-1 and 23-2 so they may become property of the House was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item VIII, House Communications and recognized the Clerk.

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following House Communications:

HSE. COMM. 23-1: (1/9/2023) From Representative Aldan, PUTC Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 23-2: (1/10/2023) From the minority caucus appointing Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas as the Minority Leader for the House of Representatives — 23rd Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 23-3: (1/10/2023) From Representative Marissa R. Flores, JGO Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. [For info]

HSE. COMM. 23-4: (1/10/2023) From Representative Omar, HW Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Health and Welfare. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-5: (1/10/2023) From Representative Ogo, C&T Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Commerce & Tourism. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-6: (1/10/2023) From Representatives Malcolm J. Omar and Angelo A. Camacho informing the House that the Governor has been notified that the 23rd House of Representatives is duly organized and ready to conduct business on January 9, 2023. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-7: (1/10/2023) From Representatives Marissa R. Flores and Julie A. Ogo informing the House that the 23rd Senate has been notified that the 23rd House of Representatives is duly organized and ready to conduct business on January 9, 2023. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-8: (1/11/2023) From Speaker Villagomez appointing members to the Ad Hoc Committee pursuant to H Res 23-1. Ad Hoc Committee Chair and members: Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst (Chair); Vice Speaker Joel C. Camacho; and Representative Diego V. F. Camacho. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-9: (1/12/2023) From Representative Aldan, PUTC Chair, submitting amended composition appointing an additional member to the House Standing Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-10: (1/12/2023) From Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan and Manny G.T. Castro informing the House that the NMI Judiciary has been notified that the 23rd House of Representatives is duly organized and ready to conduct business on January 9, 2023. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-11: (1/12/2023) From Representative Yumul, WM Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Ways & Means. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-12: (1/12/2023) From Representative Castro, Education Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Education. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-13: (1/13/2023) From Representative Angelo A. Camacho, NR Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Natural Resources. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-14: (1/17/2023) From Representative Omar, H&W Chair, submitting amended composition to the House Standing Committee on Health and Welfare. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-15:(1/17/2023) From Representative Diego V.F. Camacho, Cannabis Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Cannabis. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-16: (1/18/2023) From Representative Diego V.F. Camacho, Cannabis Chair, submitting revised composition to the House Standing Committee on Cannabis. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-17: (1/18/2023) From Representative Vicente C. Camacho, FFA Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-18: (1/19/2023) From Representative Marissa R. Flores, JGO Chair, appointing additional members to the House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-19: (1/24/2023) From Representative Yumul, Gaming Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Gaming. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-20: (1/24/2023) From Representative Ogo, C&T Chair, submitting amended composition appointing an additional member to the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-21: (1/24/2023) From Speaker Villagomez appointing Representative Julie M.A. Ogo to the State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) as a member of the House of Representatives. [*For info-see 29 U.S.C. §3111*]

There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item IX, Communications from the Judicial Branch and recognized the Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

The Clerk announced the following Communications from the Judicial Branch:

JUD. BR. COMM. 23-1: (1/23/2023 received 1/24/2023) From Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro to the Senate President and Speaker of the House submitting: *Proposed NMI Rules of Guardianship Procedure*. [*Submitted 1/24/2023; Deadline: 3/25/2023*]
(REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS)

JUD. BR. COMM. 23-2: (1/23/2023 received 1/24/2023) From Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro to the Senate President and Speaker of the House submitting: *Proposed NMI Rules of Family Dispute Mediation*. [*Submitted 1/24/2023; Deadline: 3/25/2023*]

[ADDED] JUD. BR. COMM. 23-3: (2/2/2023 received 2/2/2023) From Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro to the Senate President and Speaker of the House withdrawing submission of *Proposed NMI Rules of Family Dispute Mediation*. [*For info*]

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. Any discussions under Communications from the Judicial Branch? Ready. All right. So, under Judicial Branch Communication 2-1, this will be referred to the Committee on JGO and the deadline is March 25th. Chairwoman, thank you. And as mentioned by the Clerk and the public comment earlier Judicial Branch Communication 23-2 is hereby rescinded as it reflects on Judicial Branch Communication 2-3, and it is my understanding that it'll be resubmitted at a later time. Thank you, colleagues.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

None

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following Miscellaneous Communications:

MISC.COMM. 23-1: (1/17/2023) From the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council (SNIMC or SMC) informing the House that the 17th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council is duly organized and ready to conduct business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-2: (1/19/2023) From the Chairperson of the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation (TALD) informing the House that the 23rd TALD is duly organized and ready to conduct legislative business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-3: (1/20/2023) From the Chairman of the Twenty-Third Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation informing the House that the 23rd SNILD is duly organized and ready to transact business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-4: (1/20/2023) From the Chairman of the Twenty-Third Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation re: *appointment of the 23rd SNILD Standing Committee Chairpersons*. [*For Info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-5: (1/24/2023) From Representative Attao, SNILD WM Chair, appointing members to the SNILD Standing Committee on Ways & Means. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-6: (1/24/2023) From the Chairperson of the Rota Legislative Delegation (RLD) informing the House that the 23rd RLD is duly organized and ready to conduct legislative business. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-7: (1/27/2023) From the Mr. Oscar M. Babauta, Chairman of the 2023 Inauguration committee within the Office of the Governor-elect Arnold I. Palacios and Lieutenant Governor-elect David M. Apatang re: *submission of the financial and activities summary report of the inaugural committee*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-8: (1/26/2023) From the Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors (APIPA) re: *Completion of peer review of the CNMI's Office of the Public Auditor pursuant to government auditing standards peer review requirements contained in the Peer Review Guide by the APIPA*. [*For info*]

There was no discussion; the Chair directed the members to item XV, Resolution Calendar and called for a short recess.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

The House recessed at 2:44 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 2:44 p.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Before we went on recess, we were under the Resolution Calendar and I now recognize the Floor Leader.

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

H. RES. NO. 23-2

Respectfully requesting the Secretary of the Department of Public Works (DPW) to negotiate and certify the compensation or land exchange for the taking of a private property adjacent to the Susupe social hall and basketball court area in Susupe, Saipan for public purposes.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Resolution 23-2 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, colleagues. We now move down to item XVI; the Bill Calendar and I recognize the Floor Leader.

BILL CALENDAR

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Mr. Speaker, short recess please.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Short recess.

The House recessed at 2:45 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Before recess, we were under Bill Calendar, so we will proceed from there and I recognize the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before we move for passage on First and Final Reading on House Bill 23-1. Sorry, before we move for passage on First and Final

Reading on House Bill 23-1, Rule VII, Section 9. I'm sorry, I move to suspend Rule VII, Section 9, Committee Reports and Other Documents and Rule IX, Section 9 and 10. 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.

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 no other amendment shall be in order until all committee amendments shown in the Committee Report are disposed of, except that such committee amendments shall themselves be subject to amendment. 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.

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

(c) 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 further amendments shall be in order without regard to whether or not they are proposed by the committee reporting the bill.

(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 VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 were carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following legislation:

H. B. NO. 23-1

To amend 7 CMC §4101 to lower the interest rate of civil money judgments from nine percent (9%) to three percent (3%).

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 23-1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Vincent Raymond S. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Roman C. Benavente	yes
Representative Angelo A. Camacho	yes
Representative Diego Vincent F. Camacho	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Marissa R. Flores	yes
Representative Thomas John D.C. Manglona	yes
Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	present
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

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

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With 19 members voting “yes” and 1 present, House Bill 23-1, hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 were carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following legislation:

H. B. NO. 23-4

To establish a process for the delivery of a State of the Commonwealth Address to the Legislature by the Governor.

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 23-4 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Vincent Raymond S. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Roman C. Benavente	yes
Representative Angelo A. Camacho	yes
Representative Diego Vincent F. Camacho	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Marissa R. Flores	yes
Representative Thomas John D.C. Manglona	yes
Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

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

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With all 20 members voting “yes,” House Bill 23-4, hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 were carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following legislation:

H. B. NO. 23-6

To amend 4 CMC § 8112 to prioritize net metering to include public libraries; and for other purposes.

The motion was seconded.

Under discussion; the Chair recognized Representative Ralph N. Yumul.

Representative Ralph N. Yumul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the author for introducing such a good bill, but we must also remember that there are other people, indigenous people that are suffering too as well from paying the high cost of CUC or power and we would like to offer – maybe another member, maybe the Chairman of PUTC to look into opening net metering to everyone so that we can have the island sustained by paying lower cost in power by, you know, having everybody install solar systems or solar panels on their house. Thank you.

There was no further 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 23-6 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Vincent Raymond S. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Roman C. Benavente	absent (<i>during voting</i>)
Representative Angelo A. Camacho	yes
Representative Diego Vincent F. Camacho	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Marissa R. Flores	yes
Representative Thomas John D.C. Manglona	yes
Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

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

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With all 19 members present voting “yes,” House Bill 23-6, hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 and Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 were carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following legislation:

H. B. NO. 23-10

To amend 8 CMC §1204, as amended by Public Law 22-25, to create an exemption to the requirement that a marriage certificate include the “places of residence”.

The motion was seconded.

Under discussion; the Chair recognized Representative John Paul P. Sablan.

Representative John Paul P. Sablan offered the following floor amendment:

Floor Amendment

To: H. B. No. 23-10

Offered By: Representative John Paul P. Sablan

AMENDMENT:

H.B. No. 23-10 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- Page 3
 - Line_4:
 - **Delete** “clerk of courts of”
 - **Replace** “Superior Court” with “Recorder’s Office”

Consistent with the intent of the forgoing amendment(s), I hereby also move to allow the Legal Counsel together with the House Clerk to make further non-substantive technical amendments that are strictly necessary to effectuate the intent of this floor amendment prior to transmittal.

Date: February 2, 2023

Offered by: /s/ Rep. John Paul P. Sablan

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:
/s/ Legal Counsel John Bradley

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Representative John Paul P. Sablan was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: We now move back to the main motion for the passage on First and Final Reading of now House Bill 23-10, HD1. Floor is open for discussions. Recognized Representative Yumul.

Representative Ralph N. Yumul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And you know, just for us new members, we’d like to hear from the author as to why he’s introducing this amendment. We understood the bill was passed in the last legislature. So, please.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Yumul. I didn’t know you were a new member, but, okay. Representative John Paul Sablan.

Representative John Paul P. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you to our very good colleague Representative Yumul from election precinct 3. As he mentioned, I did amend the law last legislature, that’s why it’s reflective on the title of the bill before us that we’re about to vote and that is Public Law 22-25. The mere amendments that we’re just trying to address here at hand is that there are still certain clienteles that were actually married on trust territory period and a trust territory marriage certificate does not include the residential address and part of the requirement as Ms. Sonya Camacho alluded that the Recorder’s Office are mandated to receive marriage certificate are inclusive of residential addresses. So, these further amendments to Public Law 22-25 will amend and address those concerns so that these clienteles that have been trying to get their spouse’s benefit they can acquire and start filing this the Trust Territory Marriage Certificate to the Recorder’s Office. Thank you. I hope that that answers our very good, strong colleague from precinct election 3. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Sablan. Representative Yumul?

Representative Ralph N. Yumul: I yield.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Yumul. Floor is still open for discussions. Recognize Representative Attao.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’d like to thank the good author for making the proper or the additional amendments to 22-25 and I surely hope that the legislative intent is understood by the settlement fund in regards to the marriage certificates because they’re well aware that are a lot of these individuals haven’t received their spousal benefits – surviving benefits from the retirement fund; hence, the importance of this legislation and its subsequent amendment under 22-25. I truly hope that these individuals will be able to get these benefits retroactively as well. A lot of these individuals are elders and most of the

retirement benefits that their spouses that we're receiving were the minimal benefits and 50% of the minimal benefits roughly between six to eight thousand dollars. I hope that they will be considered to be retroactively paid to the date of the death of the retirement beneficiary. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to place that on the record and I hope that the legislative intent is followed through by the settlement fund. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Attao. Floor is still open for discussions. Ready?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Alright. Clerk, please call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 23-10 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada	yes
Representative Vincent Raymond S. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Roman C. Benavente	yes
Representative Angelo A. Camacho	yes
Representative Diego Vincent F. Camacho	yes
Representative Joel C. Camacho	yes
Representative Vicente C. Camacho	yes
Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro	yes
Representative Joseph A. Flores	yes
Representative Marissa R. Flores	yes
Representative Thomas John D.C. Manglona	yes
Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas	yes
Representative Denita K. Yangetmai	yes
Representative Ralph N. Yumul	yes
Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

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

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. With all 20 members present voting “yes,” House Bill 23-10, House Draft 1 hereby passes the House. Thank you, colleagues and that takes care of our Bill Calendar. Recognize Representative Attao.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Privilege, please. I know that Representative Benavente was absent during the voting on House Bill 23-6. He's present with us today. Would it be okay if we can recognize him for his vote on 23-6?

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Attao. Members, no objection.

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Alright, Clerk, back to House Bill 23-6 so that Representative Benavente can register his vote.

The Clerk called upon Representative Roman C. Benavente to register his vote for the passage of House Bill 23-6, which was voted on page 19 of this legislative journal:

<i>Representative Roy Christopher A. Ada</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Vincent Raymond S. Aldan</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao</i>	<i>yes</i>
Representative Roman C. Benavente	yes
<i>Representative Angelo A. Camacho</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Diego Vincent F. Camacho</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Joel C. Camacho</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Vicente C. Camacho</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Joseph A. Flores</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Marissa R. Flores</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Thomas John D.C. Manglona</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Edwin K. Propst</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative John Paul P. Sablan</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Denita K. Yangetmai</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Representative Ralph N. Yumul</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez</i>	<i>yes</i>

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

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. And just to clarify for the record, with all 20 members voting “yes,” House Bill 23-6 hereby passes the House. Thank you, colleagues. And again, that takes care of our Bill Calendar. We now move down to item XVII, Miscellaneous Business. Floor is open. Ready?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Alright, we’ll now move down to item XVIII, Announcements. Floor is open. Committees, if you have meetings coming up this coming week, please make that announcement. Recognize Representative Yumul.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Ralph N. Yumul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe after we introduced house local bills, I did schedule a meeting for this Tuesday at 3:00 p.m., February 7 for the Ways and Means.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: I just want to make an announcement that the Mayor's Office has dogs that are ready to find a home. To my colleagues, to everyone listening out there, if you are interested in adopting a dog, rescuing these beautiful dogs, they have been given their shots and they are just ready to find a home. There's several dogs just waiting. I hope that members of our public, colleagues make your kids happy. Adopt a dog. Go see the mayor's shelter and make a difference. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Floor Leader. Recognize for Representative Marissa Flores.

Representative Marissa R. Flores: Just so that the Committee on JGO knows, we will be meeting in regard to judicial branch communications 23-1 on the guardianship so that we can meet the deadline and offer our comments as well. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Marissa Flores. Recognize Representative Omar?

Representative Malcolm J. Omar: Yes. So, for the Committee of Health and Welfare, we'll have our organizational session next week, Thursday, February 9th. Okay. So, the memo will be forthcoming, but I just signed it earlier. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Omar. Floor is still open for announcement. Recognize Representative Vincent Aldan.

Representative Vincent Raymond S. Aldan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to make sure that we clarify the meeting that was scheduled incorrectly for the 9th of next week to actually the 8th with NMHC, and the discussion on that would be trying to find funding for CUC. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Vincent Aldan. I recognize Representative Manny Castro.

Representative Manny Gregory T. Castro: Just to inform the members, Mr. Speaker, that the Standing Committee on Education will be having an organizational meeting February 7 at 1:30 here at the House Chamber.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Manny Castro. Floor is still open for announcements. Floor Leader, go ahead.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Subject to the call of the Chair, I move for adjournment.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Hold on there, Floor Leader. We're still under Announcements.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Oh, sorry.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Okay. Sorry for that confusion there. Because of that, I'm just going to recognize the Vice Speaker.

Vice Speaker Joel C. Camacho: I just want to inform the members that the Ad Hoc Rules Committee has scheduled a committee meeting next week, Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. If any members that are interested in, I know that some of the committees have some changes that they have made through their respective committees, so please submit that beforehand. The meeting's next week, Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. The floor is still open for announcements. Ready?

Several members voiced "ready."

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Okay. We now move down to adjournment. Floor Leader.

ADJOURNMENT

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With that I move to adjourn subject to the Call of the Chair.

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

The House adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Venetia S. Rosario
House Journal Clerk

APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS

FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY: 1st Legislative appearance of a local bill is on the day it is introduced.

SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY: NONE

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY: NONE