



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 2023

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

3rd Day, First Regular Session

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

The House of Representatives of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its Third Day, First Regular Session on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 2:07 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 Clerk called the roll and nineteen members were present; Representative Ralph N. Yumul was absent and excused.

The Chair directed the members to item V, Introduction of Resolutions and recognized Representative Marissa R. Flores.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

None

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Bills: None

House Local Bills: None

House Legislative Initiatives: None

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

House Resolutions:

Representative Marissa R. Flores officially introduced the following resolution and request that the resolution be introduced as a Committee of the Whole:

H. RES. NO. 23-4

To honorably commend and pay just tribute to the life and legacy of the late Honorable Edward DLG Pangelinan for his relentless dedication and countless contributions in the formation and continued existence of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

REPRESENTATIVES MARISSA R. FLORES, BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO, ROMAN C. BENAVENTE, ANGELO A. CAMACHO, MANNY G. T. CASTRO, JOSEPH A. FLORES, THOMAS J. DLC. MANGLONA, JULIE M. A. OGO, MALCOM J. OMAR, JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN, EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ, DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI, and RALPH N. YUMUL (*for themselves*)

Several members voiced “no objection.”

There Chair placed House Resolution 23-4 on the Resolution Calendar.

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. 23-4: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. No. 22-47, SD1, HD1, (*To amend 1 CMC § 2484(b) to authorize the Central Statistics Division to request vital statistics data and fish, game, wildlife and endangered and threatened species data.*) Became **Public Law 22-27** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-5: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. No. 22-78, HD1, (*To amend 4 CMC § 1205 to include the Northern Marianas Technical Institute as a qualified educational institution to benefit from the education tax credit.*) Became **Public Law 22-28** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-6: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 22-39, HS1, (*To amend Title 6, Division 6, Chapter 5. Witnesses, by adding a new section 6503. Witness to Outcry of Abuse; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 22-29** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-7: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 22-85, (*To amend Title 1, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 1, Article 7 of the Commonwealth Code by permitting private employers to exercise a voluntary veterans' preference in employment relating to veterans' relief; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 22-30** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-8: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 22-120, (*To amend 4 CMC § 1202, to exclude local stimulus payments from taxation.*). Became **Public Law 22-31** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-9: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 22-18, HD1, (*To amend Division 4 of Title 6 of the Commonwealth Code relating to disposition of offenders and sentencing to provide criteria for imposition of enhanced sentencing of defendants for crimes motivated by hate.*). Became **Public Law 22-32** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-10: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 22-77, HS1, SD1 (*To establish the Health Network Program (HNP) under the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC); to provide for the orderly transition of medical referral services administration and operations to CHCC; to write off outstanding balances of medical referral promissory notes; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 22-33** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-11: (1/31/2023) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 22-3, SD1 (*To amend 9 CMC §2101(d) by providing the option for the motor vehicle liability insurance expiration to be consistent with the vehicle registration expiration; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 22-34** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-12: (received 2/2/2023) Informing the House that he vetoed S. L. B. No. 22-14, (*To ban the use of plastic checkout bags in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.*). [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-13: (2/2/2023 received 2/7/2023) **Executive Order 2023-02** – *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.*

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

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

None

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following House Communications:

HSE. COMM. 23-22: (2/9/2023) From your Committee on Ways and Means recommends that **H. L. B. NO. 23-1**, entitled, “To appropriate \$800,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59; and for other purposes.”, be transmitted to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) for its action. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-23: (2/9/2023) From your Committee on Ways and Means recommends that **H. L. B. NO. 23-2**, entitled, “To appropriate \$68,000.00 from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.”, be transmitted to the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation (TALD) for its action. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-24: (2/9/2023) From your Committee on Ways and Means recommends that **H. L. B. NO. 23-3**, entitled, “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.”, be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation (RLD) for its action. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-25: (2/10/2023) From Representative Yumul, WM Chair, appointing two additional members to the Ways and Means Committee’s composition. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-26: (2/10/2023) From Representative Yumul informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business beginning February 11, 2023 and returning February 19, 2023 and request to be excused from any and all official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Any discussions under House Communications? Ready? All right, thank you. Under House Communications 23-22, I'd like to recognize the Floor Leader to officially withdraw House Local Bill 23-1 from the Committee on Ways and Means so that the measure can be transmitted to the designated local delegations. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move to officially withdraw House Local Bill 23-1 from the Committee on Ways and Means to be officially transmitted to the designated local delegation. So, move.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. A motion has been made by the Floor Leader to withdraw House Local Bill 23-1 from the Ways and Means Committee and to be referred to the designated local delegations. It has been seconded. Any discussions?

Several members voiced “ready.”

There was no discussion and the motion to withdraw House Local Bill 23-1 from the Committee on Ways and Means and to refer to designated local delegation was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: 23-1 therefore is transmitted to its proper delegation. Again, under House Communication 23-23, I recognize the Floor Leader for the motion to withdraw House Local Bill 23-2. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. I move to officially withdraw House Local Bill 23-2 from the Committee on Ways and Means to be officially transmitted to the designated local delegation. So moved.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Floor Leader. A motion has made by the Floor Leader to withdraw House Local Bill 23-2 and to officially transmit to the designated local delegation and it has been seconded. Any discussions?

Several members voiced “ready.”

There was no discussion and the motion to withdraw House Local Bill 23-2 from the Committee on Ways and Means and to refer to designated local delegation was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Under House Communication 23-24, I’d like to recognize again the Floor Leader to withdraw House Local Bill 23-24. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move to officially withdraw House Local Bill 23-3 from the Committee on Ways and Means to be officially transmitted to the designated local delegation. So move.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Floor Leader. A motion was made by the Floor Leader to withdraw House Local Bill 23-3 from the Ways and Means Committee and to have it transmitted to the proper local delegation and it has been seconded. Any discussions?

Several members voiced “ready.”

There was no discussion and the motion to withdraw House Local Bill 23-3 from the Committee on Ways and Means and to refer to designated local delegation was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

There was no further discussion; the Chair directed the members to item X, Communications from Departments & Agencies and recognized the Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

The Clerk announced the following Communications from Department & Agencies:

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 23-1: (1/30/2023) From the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) submitting *CUC's FY 2023—First Quarter Expenditure Report (Unaudited)*. [For info]

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. Any discussions under Communications from Department and Agencies? Ready. Thank you, members. Just for reference, I'm going to refer this to the Committee on Ways and Means.

There was no further 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. 23-9: (1/31/2023) From the CEO, Commonwealth HealthCare Corporation (CHCC) to the governor re: *CHCC request appropriation of \$3,487,754 to adequately fund the medical referral program for the 2nd quarter of FY 2023*. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 23-10: (2/3/2023) Transmitting a certified copy of RLD Resolution No. 23-1, entitled, "*To adopt the Official Rules of Procedure of the Rota Legislative Delegation for the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.*", which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on January 23, 2023. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 23-11: (2/3/2023) Transmitting a certified copy of TALD Resolution No. 23-1, entitled, "*To adopt the Interim Rules of the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation for the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.*", which was adopted by the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation on January 18, 2023. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 23-12: (2/9/2023) Transmitting a certified copy of SNILD Resolution No. 23-1, entitled, "*To adopt the Interim Rules of Procedure of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.*", which was adopted by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation on January 20, 2023. [For info]

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Clerk. Any discussions under Miscellaneous Communications? Ready. Thank you. Just for reference, again, Miscellaneous Communication 23-9 will be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

There was no further discussion; the Chair directed the members to item XV, Resolution Calendar and recognized the Floor Leader.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

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

H. RES. NO. 23-4

To honorably commend and pay just tribute to the life and legacy of the late Honorable Edward DLG Pangelinan for his relentless dedication and countless contributions in the formation and continued existence of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Resolution 23-4 was carried by voice vote. There was no “nay” vote.

The Chair directed the members to item XVII, Miscellaneous Business and recognized Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao.

BILL CALENDAR

None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just as part of the members that you have designated to meet with the Administration regarding our financial situation. I believe that they will be submitting a revised budget by, I want to say by the first week of March. They were trying to get those documents to us this week, but unfortunately they found out that through the system that they've co-mingled all the funds federal funds, local funds, other obligated funds that were earmarked by previous statutes are all lumped into one account, so they're trying to separate them and reconcile all the separate accounts so they can actually present a better picture of our true budget situation here in the CNMI. So, we look forward to working with the new budget as soon as they submit it to your office and the Clerk's office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Attao. Anymore under Miscellaneous?

Several members voiced “ready.”

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Ready. All right. We'll now move down to item XVIII, Announcements. Any announcements? Recognize Representative Patrick.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is an announcement. I have to – I need to do. Pika Fest is coming up and Mayor Aldan is pleased to invite all the members of the House of Representatives to come and enjoy the Pika Festival. It's going to be a lot of Pika, Pika, Pika, but it's not a lot of room, room, room, you know, it's all, everything is fully booked, but I have to do this announcement, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please if you have time, come down and enjoy the festival. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this weekend 18, 19, 20 to be precise. Thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Patrick. Actually no, just let the Mayor Edwin Aldan, tell him that we said thank you, because he's inviting us, not you, but I'm just kidding. I'm just kidding.

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas: Well yes, he did invite you, but I'm inviting you also.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: *Para ta chalek ha.* Thank you, Representative San Nicolas. Representative John Paul Sablan.

Representative John Paul P. Sablan: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to announce to the full body that today's our good Minority Leader's birthday and we want to wish him happy birthday. Happy birthday.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you. And yesterday was not only Valentine's Day, but it was also our Floor Leader's birthday and Rep. Yangetmai's birthday too as well. And Rep. Vicente was not too far behind too as well. So, happy birthday to our – yeah, a lot of February. All right. Representative Omar.

Representative Malcolm J. Omar: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So, I just want to extend an invitation for the meet and greet for the CHCC leadership it's tomorrow Thursday on the 16th at 10:00 a.m. So, it was extended to the Health and Welfare Committee for both the House and Senate, but it's extended now for any member interested. So, tomorrow from just 10 to 12 or shorter. No, it'll be at the CHCC conference room. So again, yes, everyone's invited and thank you.

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Thank you, Representative Omar. Anymore under Announcements. Ready?

Several members voiced "ready."

Speaker Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez: Okay. Floor Leader. Now under adjournment, I recognize you.

ADJOURNMENT

Floor Leader Edwin K. Propst: I move for adjournment 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 2:21 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:

H. L. B. NO. 23-4: To amend 10 CMC §14106 to amend the Rota Resident Identification Card fee; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023.

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY: NONE

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on February 3, 2023:

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%). Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

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. Prefiled by: REP. ROMAN C. BENAVENTE of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representative Manny G.T. Castro) - [WITHDRAWN-2/3/2023]

H. B. NO. 23-3: To impose a toll fee to be paid by passengers who enter the Marpi area; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. ROMAN C. BENAVENTE of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

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. Introduced by REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

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. Introduced by REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H. B. NO. 23-6: To amend 4 CMC § 8112 to prioritize net metering to include public libraries; and for other purposes. Introduced by 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) on February 3, 2023; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

H. B. NO. 23-7: To amend 4 CMC §1401(d) to increase revenues by properly taxing tobacco products. Introduced by 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) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H. B. NO. 23-8: To require all contractors to be licensed in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Introduced by REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 23-9: To require legislative appropriation for all non-locally-sourced funds allocated for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Introduced by REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means and to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

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”. Introduced by 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) on February 3, 2023; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

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. Introduced by REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs.

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. Introduced by REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] H. B. NO. 23-13: To amend the Crimes and Criminal Procedure Code definitions of dangerous weapon and serious bodily injury. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] H. B. NO. 23-14: To amend the punishment for the crime of vandalism to include the option of confinement. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] 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. Introduced by REP. VICENTE C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] H. B. NO. 23-16: To reduce start-up costs for small businesses. Introduced by REP. MANNY G. T. CASTRO of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul) on February 3, 2023; referred to the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism on February 6, 2023.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] 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. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*) on February 3, 2023; referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations on February 6, 2023.

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. Introduced by 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) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] 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. Introduced by REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] 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. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] H. L. B. NO. 23-4: To amend 10 CMC §14106 to amend the Rota Resident Identification Card fee; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023.

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. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 and REP. MANNY G. T. CASTRO of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for themselves* Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R.S. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DLC. Manglona, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcom J. Omar, Edwin K. Propst, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on February 3, 2023; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

[ADDED-2/3/2023] 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. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on February 3, 2023; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.