



March 06, 2023

THE SENATE
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 2023

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
3 rd Day	Thursday, March 09, 2023	10:35 a.m.
SENATE CHAMBER, SAIPAN		

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

- A. ROLL CALL: All Nine (9) members are present.**
- B. PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**
- C. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL: ADOPTED**
- Senate Journal No. 23-02** - First Regular, 2nd Day – 02/14/23
- D. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:**
- Gov. Msg. No. 23-36:** Feb. 10, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Ms. Mary Margaret S. Sablan appointed to serve as Secretary of DCCA.
 - Gov. Msg. No. 23-37:** Feb. 13, 2023 – Appointment of Ms. Teresita A. Santos to the position of Secretary of the Department of Public Lands.
 - Gov. Msg. No. 23-38:** Feb. 15, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Mr. Pedro I. Itibus appointed to serve as a member of the CUC Board of Directors.
 - Gov. Msg. No. 23-39:** Feb. 15, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Ms. Donna M. Flores appointed to serve as a member of the CNMI Scholarship Board of Directors.

5. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-40:** Feb. 16, 2023 – Nomination of Mr. Denn M. Manglona to serve as a member of the Board of Professional Licensing to represent the First Senatorial District.
6. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-41:** Feb. 16, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Mr. Alvaro Santos to serve as a member of MPLT.
7. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-42:** Feb. 22, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Mr. Denn M. Manglona to serve as a member of Board of Professional Licensing.
8. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-43:** Feb. 23, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Ms. Teresita A. Santos to serve as Secretary of the Department of Public Lands.
9. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-44:** Feb. 23, 2023 – Nomination of Ms. Rosa L. Igitol to serve as a member of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) Board of Directors to represent the Third Senatorial District.
10. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-45:** Feb. 24, 2023 – Nomination of Mr. Rufo T. Mafnas to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Board of Directors to represent the Third Senatorial District.
11. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-46:** Feb. 24, 2023 – Nomination of Mr. Simon A. Sanchez to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Board of Directors to represent off-island with utility management experience.
12. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-47:** Feb. 22, 2023 – Nomination of Mr. Robert Harrison Myers, Jr. to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Board of Directors to represent the First Senatorial District.
13. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-48:** Feb. 22, 2023 – Nomination of Mr. Ross Hugh S. Manglona to serve as Resident Executive for Indigenous Affairs.
14. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-49:** Feb. 27, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Dr. Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., appointed to serve as a member of MPLT.
15. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-50:** Feb. 28, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Mr. Ross Hugh S. Manglona to serve as Resident Executive for Indigenous Affairs.
16. **Gov. Msg. No. 23-51:** Mar. 01, 2023 – Copy of resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Ms. Victoria S. Bellas to serve as a member of the Civil Service Commission.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY: (NONE)

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPT.:

1. **Dept. Msg. No. 23-03:** Feb. 27, 2023 – DOF on CNMI Audit Performer for FY 2020.

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE:

1. **Hse. Comm. No. 23-06:** Feb. 17, 2023 – Certified copy of H.R. 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 CNMI. **[FOR INFO.]**

H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:

1. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-59:** Feb. 13, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee, Ms. Mary Margaret Sablan appointed as Secretary of DCCA resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test result.
2. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-60:** Feb. 13, 2023 – Referral to REDP & Gaming Committee S.B. No. 23-26.
3. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-61:** Feb. 14, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee the executive appointment of Ms. Teresita A. Santos to serve as Secretary of DPL.
4. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-62:** Feb. 14, 2023 – Referral to REDP&Gaming Senate legislations. [SBs 23-27 and 28]
5. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-63:** Feb. 14, 2023 – Referral to PUTC Committee Joeten-Kiyu Library's comment on HB 23-6.
6. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-64 – 23-65:** Feb. 16, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee Mr. Itibus – CUC and Ms. Flores – CNMI Scholarship resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test results.
7. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-66:** Feb. 21 2023– Referral to EAGI Committee nomination of Mr. Denn M. Manglona to serve as a member of Board of Professional Licensing representing the First Senatorial District.

8. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-67:** Feb. 21, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee Mr. Alvaro Santos’ (MPLT) resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test results.
 9. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-68:** Feb. 24, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee Ms. Teresita A. Santos’ resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test results.
 10. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-69:** Feb. 24, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee Mr. Denn M. Manglona’s resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test results.
 11. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-70:** Feb. 27, 2023 – Referral to PUTC Committee SB 23-29.
 12. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-71:** Feb. 27, 2023 – Referral to REDP & Gaming Committee SB 23-30.
 13. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-72:** Feb. 27, 2023 – Referral to JGL Committee SBs 23-31 and 32.
 14. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-73 to 23-77:** Feb. 27, 2023 – Referrals to EAGI Committee Executive appointments to MVA, CUC and IA.
 15. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-78:** Feb. 28, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee Dr. Rita A. Sablan’s (MPLT) resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test results.
 16. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-79:** Feb. 28, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test results of Mr. Ross Hugh Manglona to serve as the Resident Executive for Indigenous Affairs.
 17. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-80:** Mar. 03, 2023 – Referral to HEW Committee regarding Mr. Herman Deleon Guerrero on the new medical referral policy.
 18. **Sen. Comm. No. 23-81:** Mar. 03, 2023 – Referral to EAGI Committee Ms. Victoria S. Bellas’s (CSC) resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test results.
- I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE WASHINGTON DELEGATE: (NONE)**
- J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (NONE)**
- K. PRE-FILED BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **Senate Bill No. 23-29:** To replace the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation with two independent autonomous public corporations to separately manage and control the power service and water service systems, create one elected consolidated board for the two public corporations; and for other purposes. [SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 02/23/23] [*Referred to PUTC Committee*]
2. **Senate Bill No. 23-30:** To establish the Hunting Act of 2023 for the Commonwealth; and for other purposes. [SEN. FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ – 02/23/23] [*Referred to REDP & Gaming Committee*]
3. **Senate Bill No. 23-31:** To amend 9 CMC § 2103 to require execution of a Notice of Transfer and Release of Liability by the appropriate parties upon the ownership transfer of a vehicle. [SEN. FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ – 02/23/23] [*Referred to JGL Committee*]
4. **Senate Bill No. 23-32:** To establish mandatory presentation of valid personal photo identification for any debit card or credit card transaction made in person and any check cash exchange or purchase for all business establishments in the Commonwealth. [SEN. FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ – 02/23/23] [*Referred to JGL Committee*]

L. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS:

M. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES: (ALL ADOPTED)

1. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-01:** Feb. 22, 2023 – From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **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%). [*Recommends passage in its current form*]
2. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-02:** Feb. 22, 2023 – From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **S.B. No. 23-09** – To repeal and reenact 1 CMC §2502 to clarify the rank and file at the Department of Public Safety; and for other purposes. [*Recommends passage in its current form*]
3. **Standing Committee Report No. 23-03:** Feb. 23, 2023 – From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **H.B. No. 23-10, HD1** – To amend 8 CMC §1204, as amended by PL 22-25, to create an exemption to the requirement that a marriage certificate include the “places of residence”. [*Recommends passage in its current form*]

N. REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: (NONE)

O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:

1. **S.J.R. No. 23-01** - Requesting Governor Arnold I. Palacios to re-assess the exempt status of the CNMI in participating in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprises pertaining to the Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs. [SEN. EDITH E. DELEON GUERRERO – 01/25/23] - **ADOPTED**

P. BILL CALENDAR:

FINAL READING

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.B. No. 23-09 (See SCRep. 23-02) PASSED	To repeal and reenact 1 CMC §2502 to clarify the rank and file at the Department of Public Safety; and for other purposes.
H.B. No. 23-01 (See SCRep. 23-01) PASSED	To amend 7 CMC §4101 to lower the interest rate of civil money judgments from nine percent (9%) to three percent (3%).
H.B. No. 23-6 (See HC 23-03) PASSED	To amend 4 CMC § 8112 to prioritize net metering to include public libraries; and for other purposes.
H.B. No. 23-10, HD1 (See SCRep. 23-03) PASSED	To amend 8 CMC §1204, as amended by PL 22-25, to create an exemption to the requirement that a marriage certificate include the “places of residence”.

Q. PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. Misc. Comm. No. 23-11:** Feb. 14, 2023 – Office of Attorney General regarding draft legislation on AG’s Amendment Act.
- 2. Misc. Comm. No. 23-12:** Feb. 27, 2023 – Youth Congress regarding 23rd Youth Congress Elections.

R. ANNOUNCEMENTS; and

S. ADJOURNMENT at 11 a.m.

APPEARANCE OF SENATE LOCAL BILLS

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.L.B. No. 23-01	<i>To amend 10 CMC § 12114 to provide for the Rota Casino Gaming Commission members’ compensation. [Sen. Manglona, P.]</i> <i>2ND Appearance</i>

The Senate may consider, debate, and/or act upon any item contained in this Order of Business at the time and place described herein.