

**THE SENATE
TWELFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2000**

Sixth Day

Tuesday, December 19, 2000

The Senate of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, Sixth Day, Second Regular Session, 2000, was called to order at 2:20 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, on Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Honorable Paul A. Manglona, President of the Senate, presided.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Senate Clerk called the roll and eight (8) members were present. Senator David M. Cing was excused.

The Chair recognized Senator Adriano.

Senator Adriano: Mr. President, I would like that we excuse Senator Cing from Tinian, he is under medication today. Thank you.

President Manglona: Please, let the record reflect that Senator Cing is excused this afternoon. With eight members present, we have the necessary quorum to conduct today's session.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

None

Senator Adriano: Mr. President, if there is no objection, can we go down to Standing Committee Report for confirmation?

Vice President Villagomez voiced "no objection".

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-18: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRAMS REPORTING ON HB NO. 12-212, CD1, HD1, ENTITLED, "TO AMEND THE WEAPONS CONTROL ACT TO PROMOTE AND ALLOW RESORT DEVELOPMENTS OFFERING TARGET RANGES FOR COMPETITIVE RIFLE COMPETITION, AND SKEET SHOOTING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-19: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. MICHAEL S. SABLAN AS PUBLIC AUDITOR FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-20: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S

APPOINTMENT OF MR. JOAQUIN Q. ATALIG AS MEMBER OF THE FREE TRADE ZONE AUTHORITY BOARD REPRESENTING ROTA.

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-21: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. PHILLIP M. LONG AS MEMBER OF THE FREE TRADE ZONE AUTHORITY BOARD REPRESENTING TINIAN.

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-22: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. JAY JONES AS MEMBER OF THE FREE TRADE ZONE AUTHORITY BOARD REPRESENTING SAIPAN.

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-23: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. RICHARD ALLAN PIERCE AS MEMBER OF THE FREE TRADE ZONE AUTHORITY BOARD REPRESENTING SAIPAN.

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-24: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. KARL T. REYES AS MEMBER OF THE FREE TRADE ZONE AUTHORITY BOARD REPRESENTING SAIPAN.

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-25: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MS. REMEDIO S. MIKE AS MEMBER OF THE COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT APPEALS BOARD REPRESENTING SAIPAN.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for the adoption of Standing Committee Report No. 12-18; Standing Committee Report No. 12-19; Standing Committee Report No. 12-20; Standing Committee Report No. 12-21; Standing Committee Report No. 12-22; Standing Committee Report No. 12-23; Standing Committee Report No. 12-24 and Standing Committee Report No. 12-25 and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: The motion is the passage of Standing Committee Report No. 12-18 all the way to Standing Committee Report No. 12-25.

The motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 12-18 through 12-25 was carried by voice vote.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, can we have a short recess to congratulate the nominees?

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 2:26 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 2:29 p.m.

President Manglona: Let us resume with our session. For the record, our last action in adopting Standing Committee Report No. 12-18 to Standing Committee Report No. 12-25 included a lot of confirmation as required by

our laws for the confirmation of government appointees including, Mr. Michael A. Sablan as the Public Auditor. That is for the record.

Senator Adriano: Also, Mr. President, CRM nominees from Saipan.

President Manglona: Yes, that's right. It is delineated in the reports. I just want to clarify that up.

Senator Adriano: Just one thing, Mr. President, if I may. This is Standing Committee Report No. 12-18. Are we adopting the committee report of the bill?

President Manglona: Well, just the committee report and the subject of 12-18 will be addressed when we get to the Bill Calendar.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, without objection from the members, I would like now to move back to our regular order of business.

President Manglona: Is there any objection? No objection?

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-420: November 22, 2000 – Nominating Mr. George Fleming, Jr.; Mr. Jay Jones, and Mr. Richard Pierce to serve as members of the Free Trade Zone Authority Board.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-421: November 22, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for YU's enterprises (USA), Inc. Ltd.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-422: November 22, 2000 – Certification for 3 vacant positions at the Division of Environmental Quality, Office of the Governor, that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-423: November 22, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Standford Corporation dba The Magellan Club Hotel.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-424: November 22, 2000 – PL 11-6 Korean American Cable Vision.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-425: November 27, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Rosphilruss (RPR) Enterprises.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-426: November 27, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Sterling Corporation.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-427: November 27, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Pacific Eagle Ent., Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-428: November 27, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Department of Public Health.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-429: November 27, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for SUNLEADER (Saipan) Co., Ltd.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-430: November 29, 2000 – Certification for 2 vacant positions at the Rota Health Center that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-431: November 30, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for JUAN M. SAN NICOLAS dba FISH FRESH MARKET.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-432: November 30, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Jen-Marz Enterprises, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-433: December 1, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he had signed into law HB 12-258, entitled, "To amend 4 CMC §1708(b)(1)(iii); and for other purposes." (PL 11-31 – 12/1/00)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-434: December 1, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he had signed into law HB 12-199, CD1, SS1, SD2, the "Investment Incentive Act of 2000" (PL 12-32 – 12/1/00)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-435: December 5, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he had signed into law HB 12-257, CD1, HD1, the “Board of Public Lands Act of 2000” (PL 11-33 – 12/05/00)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-436: December 5, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he had signed into law HB 12-285, SD2, entitled, “To extend the privilege of having non-resident workers with special skills and qualifications fill hard-to-fill vacant positions within the CNMI government by repealing and reenacting 3 CMC §4434(k); and for other purposes.” (PL 11-34 – 12/05/00)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-437: December 5, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for ONE EIGHTY O DESIGN CO., LTD.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-438: December 5, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Island’s Janitorial Services.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-439: December 5, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Businet Corporation.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-440: December 5, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Ideal Signs.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-441: December 5, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Y.M.C. KANKO, CO., Ltd.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-442: December 5, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for American K&W Corp.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-443: December 5, 2000 – Withdrawing the name of Mr. Jim Stowell as his nominee to the Commonwealth Free Trade Zone Authority Board of Directors. (See Gov. Mesg. 12-420)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-444: December 6, 2000 – Certification for 3 vacant positions: Quarantine Officer I, II, and III for Tinian that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-445: December 7, 2000 – Certification for 3 vacant positions in the Tinian Health Center that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-446: December 7, 2000 – Certification for annual salary in excess of \$50,000 for Dr. Jean Yacoub at the CHC.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-447: December 11, 2000 – Withdrawing the name of Ms. Marcie M. Tomokane as his nominee to the Commonwealth Free Trade Zone Authority Board of Directors. (See Gov. Mesg. 12-420)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-448: December 11, 2000 – Certification that the positions of Customs Inspector I (2); Tax Technician I (1); and Revenue Technician I (1) in Tinian are vacant and must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-449: December 11, 2000 – Certification that the position of Community Worker for the Carolinian Affairs office is vacant and must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-450: December 13, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Hotel Nikko Saipan.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-451: December 13, 2000 – Certification that 3 positions of Community Worker at the Tinian Municipal Council are vacant and must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-452: December 13, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for J’s Malotte Corporation.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-453: December 13, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Marianas Repairs Company, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-454: December 13, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Department of Public Health.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-455: December 13, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for San Francisco De Borja Church.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-456: December 12, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he had signed into law HB 12-202, SD1, HD1, entitled, “To re-appropriate fund balances from PL 9-24; and for other purposes. (PL 12-35 – 12/12/00)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-457: December 14, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Hyatt Regency Hotel, Saipan.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-458: December 14, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Aqua Resort Club, Saipan.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-459: December 14, 2000 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Y.M.C. KANKO, CO., Ltd.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-460: December 15, 2000 – Nominating Mr. Michael S. Sablan for the position of Public Auditor.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-461: December 15, 2000 – Informing the Legislature that he had disapproved HB 12-64, CD1, SD1, entitled, “To amend 6 CMC § 2208, to create a new subsection (f), to make members of the CPA Police enforcement officers for purposes of the Commonwealth Weapons Control Act; and to amend 1 CMC 8282 by creating a new subsection (m), to qualify employees of the CPA Police for death benefits; and for other purposes.” (DISAPPROVED ON 12/15/00)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-462: December 15, 2000 – Informing the Senate that he had disapproved SB 12-36, HD1, the “Diabetes Health Maintenance Act of 2000”. (DISAPPROVED ON 12/15/00)

President Manglona: Is there any comment on the messages from the Governor?

Senator Adriano: Yes, Mr. President. On Governor’s Communication No. 12-461, the legislation to authorize the CPA enforcement officers to carry firearms including death benefit had been disapproved. One of the veto messages, Mr. President, is that the Governor disagreed to allow any more government employee to carry more firearms. The end, Mr. President. I discussed this with several CPA officers this afternoon. If I may, I would like to move that we override this veto, unless the members otherwise have another solution to this veto message. I so move.

Senator Guerrero and Senator Dela Cruz voiced, “second”.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Adriano: Can we hear from Vice President Villagomez, first?

The Chair recognized Vice President Villagomez.

Vice President Villagomez: Mr. President, with regards to this legislation, again, the thing is we would like to put out our position on the legislation. But this is a House Bill and I know that we are independent of any action from the House. But there is a tendency here in the Legislature that we will act on a legislation that had been disapproved by the Governor and then the House would not take a position. We have shown our part in passing this legislation. If we are going to do an override, with all do respect to Chairman Adriano on this issue, he will be going down to the House and have the House act on this legislation. If not, with all do respect, I would like to ask that we differ action on this bill. We can always come back if the House takes a position and override this legislation. But it is useless for us to go ahead and override it and the House comes and sits on the whole issue here rather than override. Maybe we should lobby at the House for a position on that.

President Manglona: Is there any further discussion?

Senator Adriano: I am not really satisfied with Senator Villagomez’ comment. I think that in the past, we have overrode bills and the House never acts on what we have acted on--whatever override from the Governor. So, the motion is still--I move.

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded. We are still under discussion. Can we hear from other members?

Senator Dela Cruz: Mr. President, this particular piece of legislation was brought to my committee for review. As all the members are aware, this particular legislation was passed at the last session. I am also a little bit disappointed because these law enforcement officers do need this protection, but at the same time also I have a concern that if we do an override today, will we accomplish anything? Will the Lower House take the similar or same position? My concern here, and I apologize to my colleague from Tinian, Senator Adriano, but my concern here is we might be making an enemy or should I say we might be creating a problem with the Executive Branch and not accomplishing our mission as well. That is the only concern I have, Mr. President.

The Chair recognized Senator Maratita.

Senator Maratita: Thank you, Mr. President. I will vote for an override on House Bill No. 12-64, but I share the concern of the Vice President. We do an override here in the Senate and then we send it down to the House....

Senator Adriano: Mr. President, I withdraw my motion, thank you. I rest my case.

President Manglona: Senator Adriano has withdrawn his motion.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS

None

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

Hse. Comm. No. 12-160: Informing the Senate that the House rejected the Senate amendments to HB 12-246, CS1, the FY 2001 APPROPRIATIONS ACT. (Currently in Conference Committee)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-161: Informing the Senate that the House accepted the Senate amendments to HB 12-285. (See also Gov. Mesg. 12-436)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-162: Informing the Senate that the House accepted the Senate amendments to HB 12-64, CD1. (Transmitted to Governor on 12/29/00)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-163: Informing the Senate that the House accepted the Senate amendments to HB 12-199, CD1. (See also Gov. Mesg. 12-434)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-164: Transmitting for Senate action HJR 12-16, entitled, "To request a complete exemption for payment of a debt to the US Department of the Treasury, Division of Debt Management, in the amount of \$1,589,367 on the grounds that it will be in the best interest of the United States to do so."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-165: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-293, CD1, entitled, "Toxic Substances Exposure Compensation Act."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-166: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-250, CS1, HS1, HD4, entitled, "To terminate the submerged land lease between the CNMI and Marine Revitalization Corporation, to acquire the Outer Cove Marina, to regulate the operations of marinas on Saipan, CNMI; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-167: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-286, CD1, HD1, entitled, "To amend PL 12-24 to designate the Executive Director of the CUC as the expenditure authority; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-168: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-231, CD1, SD1, HD1, entitled, "To amend Title 1, Div. 8, part 3, Chapter 7, §8402 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes." (Re Retirement)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-169: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-295, HD1, entitled, "To amend 4 CMC 1803 by adding a new subsection (e); and for other purposes." (Re MVA to receive 100% of the aviation fuel tax)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-170: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-289, CD1, HD1, entitled, "To authorize the appropriation of \$2,420,000.00 for the NMHC."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-171: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-168, CS1, entitled, "To require the Division of Public Lands to establish reasonable requirements for maintenance and upkeep of lease public properties, and lands adjacent thereto, and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-172: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-105, entitled, "To require the Division of Public Lands to identify all public lands which are being encroached upon by private interests, and to establish appropriate encroachment fees."

WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE'S COMMUNICATIONS

None

SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

PREFILED BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sen. Res. No. 12-25: A Senate Resolution requesting the Board of Public Lands to open and make available new village homestead sites on the island of Tinian to accommodate the growing list of eligible applicants who have yet to receive a homestead lot. (SEN. JOSE M. DELA CRUZ – 12/13/00)

Sen. Bill No. 12-83: A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC § 7404(d); and for other purposes. (Relating to contracting for capitol improvements) (SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 11/22/00)

Sen. Bill No. 12-84: A Bill for an Act to provide authority to the CNMI Department of Public Safety to submit relevant personal data to Selective Service System in order to register male residents in the CNMI as required by Federal Law and to ensure that CNMI citizens are in compliance with Federal Law pertaining to same. (SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 12/18/00)

Sen. Legislative Initiative 12-3: A Legislative Initiative to propose a Constitutional amendment to Section 6 and to add a new Section 7 to Article XI of the Commonwealth Constitution. (Relating to Public Lands) (SEN. RAMON S. GUERRERO – 12/07/00)

Sen. Joint Res. No. 12-3: A Senate Joint Resolution requesting the Secretary of the Department of Transportation of the United States of America to assist and provide One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars to undertake two feasibility studies sites for the construction of bridges; and for other purposes. (SEN. JOAQUIN G. ADRIANO-12/19/00)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Senate Bill No. 12-85: A Bill for an Act to Amend 1 CMC 7401 by adding a new subsection (s) and for other purposes. (SEN. RICARDO S. ATALIG)

Senate Bill No. 12-86: A Bill for an Act to Amend 3 CMC Section 13116(p) and for other purposes. (SEN. RICARDO S. ATALIG)

BILL CALENDAR

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for the suspension of pertinent rules to allow for the passage of the bills listed on the Final Reading Calendar. Several members seconded, and the motion carried.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-46: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO VACATE 214 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 94-3 TO COMBINE THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION WITH THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on First Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: There is a motion for the passage of House Bill No. 12-46 regarding the Civil Service Commission. This is for First Reading. Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 2:39 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 2:53 p.m.

President Manglona: Let us resume with our session. We are still under Bill Calendar.

The motion for the passage of House Bill No. 12-46 on First Reading carried by voice vote.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-77: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A DIVISION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS IN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL; TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL STAFF SUPPORT AND CONTINUITY OF EFFORT IN THE COMMONWEALTH'S RELATION WITH UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT; TO FURTHER THE COMMONWEALTH'S INTEREST IN WASHINGTON DC, IN COORDINATING WITH GOVERNOR AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNITED STATES; TO FOCUS ATTENTION IN ISSUES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ALLOCATION OF POWER AND FUNCTIONS BETWEEN CENTRAL AND LOCAL OTHER ISSUES OF GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, Senate Bill No. 12-77 passes the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-83, SENATE DRAFT 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND 1 CMC SECTION 74049 (d) RELATING TO CONTRACTING FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, Senate Bill No. 12-83, SD1, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-293, COMMITTEE DRAFT 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TOXIC SUBSTANCES EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ACT.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-293, CD1, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-109, COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CNMI RETIREMENT BOARD TO ALLOW TWO SPOUSE WORKING FAMILIES TO EITHER PAY IN ADVANCE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION BY ONE SPOUSE OF TRANSFER SERVICE CREDIT FROM ONE SPOUSE TO ANOTHER UP TO A MAXIMUM OF (5) YEARS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
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Senator Adriano: Mr. President, for the record. I think this is my bill, but my name was taken out from the House. I vote "yes".

Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-109, CS1, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-275, HOUSE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND IMMIGRATION SHALL NOT REVIEW LABOR CONTRACTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and Senator Atalig and Vice President Villagomez seconded.

Senator Adriano: May we hear the title of this bill, Mr. President?

President Manglona: House Bill No. 12-275 is on labor contracts. Do you want to explain, Floor Leader Reyes?

Floor Leader Reyes: Yes, Mr. President, I want to give the title.

President Manglona: It is under House Communication No. 12-143.

Senator Adriano: I understand, Mr. President. For the benefit of the members, I would like to recommend that all bills titles should be read out so we can move faster. I second that, Mr. President.

President Manglona: Is there any further discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-275, HS1, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-158, COMMITTEE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 2: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND 3 CMC SECTIONS 1102, 1104, 1141, 1151, 1152, 1163, 1181, 1315; 1 CMC, SECTION 2268, 2271, 2272 (AMENDING EDUCATION ACT), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-158, CD1, HD2, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-289 COMMITTEE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE APPROPRIATION OF \$2,420,000.00 FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

Senator Adriano: Mr. President, I would like to clarify that there is an amendment to this bill. The bill is now House Bill No. 12-289, CD1, HD1, SD1. And I thought that this amendment has been passed around.

Senator Guerrero voiced, "second".

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 2:58p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 2:59 p.m.

President Manglona: We are back to our session, we are still discussing House Bill No. 12-289, CD1, HD1, SD1 as had been pointed out by Senator Adriano. Is there any further discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-289, CD1, HD1, SD1, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-117, HOUSE SUSBTITUTE 1, SENATE DRAFT 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL TITLE 4 CMC DIVISION 5 CHAPTER 5 IN ITS ENTIRETY, VACATE EO 94-3, 302 (c) AND REPLACE WITH A NEW DIVISION 5 CHAPTER 5 ENTITLED THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL ACT OF 2000.

Floor Leader moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Dela Cruz: That is House Bill No. 12-117, HS1, SD1.

President Manglona: Senate Draft 1.

Vice President Villagomez: It is an amendment provided by Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: As provided, there's an amendment attached to it.

President Manglona: So, we are voting on SD1, please have that clear because the Calendar here has HS1.

Vice President Villagomez: There's an amendment submitted by Senator Dela Cruz.

President Manglona: So, we are voting on SD1. Is there any further discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-117, HS1, SD1 passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-277: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ENSURE THAT THE STUDENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH RECEIVE QUALITY SCHOOL SERVICES, TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM POLICIES AND REGULATIONS RECLASSIFYING COUNSELORS AS CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES AND CHANGING COUNSELORS' SALARIES; AND FOR OTHER PUROSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

The Chair recognized Vice President Villagomez.

Vice President Villagomez: Thank you, Mr. President. I am not exactly sure what the intent of this legislation is to be honest with you. But because we are deleting--what I'm looking at here now, is that you're deleting, on page 2, line 13, 'and up to fifty thousand per annum for school counselors' and line 15, they deleted counselors'. Can we have somebody explain this or call for a very short recess?

President Manglona: Is there any other member? Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 3:03 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 3:05 p.m.

President Manglona: We are back to our session, we are still discussing House Bill No. 12-277. Is there any further discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-277 passes the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-60: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND 2 CMC, DIVISION, 4, SECTION 4382, DESIGNATION OF HOMESTEAD AREAS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Atalig: Thank you, Mr. President. Basically, this is simple amendment for the Rota Agricultural Homestead. At the present, there are agricultural homesteads that are designated by public land and I want to include those areas -- those people that came in and cleared the area and used it as a farming place and raising livestock. So, I want to include that area, also.

President Manglona: Is there any further discussion?

Senator Guerrero and Senator Maratita voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, Senate Bill No. 12-60 passes the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-26: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO RESERVED AREAS OF PUBLIC LANDS ON THE ISLAND OF ROTA THAT ARE SUITABLE FOR VILLAGE HOMESTEADERS, SPECIFICALLY THE DUGI, FINAFA, CHUDANG AND GINALANGAN AREAS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and Senator Adriano seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Guerrero voiced “ready”.

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, Senate Bill No. 12-26 passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-92: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY OF CURRENCY BROUGHT INTO THE CNMI FROM \$5,000.00 TO \$10,000.00 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Floor Leader Reyes, may I ask what the subject of this bill?

Floor Leader Reyes: The title of the bill is.....

Vice President Villagomez: It is increasing the amount of currency brought into the Commonwealth from five to ten thousand.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: I am going to vote for this bill, Mr. President, just like I said earlier. I am not worry about money coming in. I am more worried about money going out. That is for the record, Mr. President.

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-92, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-212, COMMITTEE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE WEAPONS CONTROL ACT TO PROMOTE AND ALLOW RESORT DEVELOPMENTS OFFERING TARGET RANGES FOR COMPETITIVE RIFLE COMPETITION, AND SKEET SHOOTING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and several members seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, it would be unfair if I do not offer a floor amendment to address the concerns of the Senators of the Youth Congress with respect to the use of handguns. And so I am offering a floor amendment which is passed out to the members. Everybody has a copy of that. I so move and offer the floor amendment.

OFFERED BY: Senator Pete P. Reyes
DATE: December 19, 2000
SESSION: 6th Day, Second Regular Session
TO: House Bill No. 12-212, CD1, HD1, SS1

TO BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

On page 2 of 4: Line 13. Strike out the words "handgun competition".

Line 21: Strike out the words "handgun competition".
On page 6 of 10 lines 4, strike out the word "hand-gun".

Offered By: _____ /s/ _____
Senator Pete P. Reyes

Senator Adriano voiced, "second".

The Chair recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Mr. President, I totally disagree with the amendment. Number 1, I did make an explanation that the handgun we are talking about for shooting resorts are based on the international standard which is not more than six inches long and not less than six inches below on the barrow of the gun. Therefore, these types of guns are exclusively used for shooting resorts. I ask my colleague to withdraw that because I am against the amendment. We are talking about shooting competition and there is a standard regulation, Mr. President. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Vice President Villagomez.

Vice President Villagomez: Thank you, Mr. President. I was looking at the web site today on the Olympic competition and I need some clarification on the intent of deleting the word handgun because in the Olympic competition, they do have handgun air rifle. If the intent is to prevent the importation of handguns, .22 caliber, .30 caliber or .45, I think that would be more specific on the restriction. Because I feel that the airgun, although, they are more powerful than pistol or rifle, what we have out here on air-gun are considered less threatening than if I were to use the word "than a .22 caliber or .38 caliber, 9 mm on that one. I understand that the International Sports Shooting Federation restricted their handgun ammunition to only .30 caliber, .38 and .45 caliber. Now if the intent is to prevent those kinds of guns, then I think that we should be more specific and point it to those kinds of firearms rather

than just handguns in general. Like I said the handguns that are used for the Olympic Competition—I believe that 9 millimeter was not part of the competition, but they did have air pistols and they were considered defined handgun. So, I think that we have to be more specific on the definition of handguns here.

Floor Leader Reyes: May I request for a short recess?

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 3:14 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 3:19 p.m.

President Manglona: We are back to our session, we are still discussing House Bill No. 12-212, CD1, HD1, SS1, specifically, the floor amendment as offered by Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, on the floor amendment it is on page 2 of 10, line 13, the word “handgun competition” and on the same page line 21, the word “handgun” and on page 6, line 4, the word “handgun”. That is the floor amendment.

Vice President Villagomez: Come again, on line 2 of 10.

Floor Leader Reyes: On page 2 of 10, line 13, “handgun competition”, after the word “rifle and handgun competition”, delete “handgun competition”. On the same page on line 21, after “shotgun” delete “handgun”, and on page 6 of 10, line 4, after “shotgun” remove the word “handgun”.

President Manglona: Is there any further discussion on the floor amendment?

Floor Leader Reyes: As I indicated earlier, the concerns registered by the Youth Congress is the fear that allowing the use of handgun may have some safety threats against the general public. I know that we are not making amendments to the Gun Control Act that is currently in placed in the Commonwealth for the use of its citizens. I know that this is going to be strictly to the site, the location, and under extreme safety measures, but there is no other safer place than to just remove it. Because if we remove it, there is that possibility of this appearing in the street and so I offered this amendment on the basis of that concern.

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: I do understand, Mr. President the concern that my good colleague Floor Leader Reyes is offering. But for me, Mr. President, I don't see any difference between a handgun and a rifle here. We are talking about a proposed project here that would allow such shooting resort and by taking out particular tools on this particular resort. I think we are defeating the purpose, Mr. President. I move to end debate.

President Manglona: There is a motion to end debate.

Several members voiced “second,” and the motion to end debate carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

Floor Leader Reyes: Point of clarification, Mr. President.

President Manglona: I am sorry, we are voting on the floor amendment as offered by Senator Reyes.

Senator Adriano: Mr. President, I think I seconded the motion the first time. Therefore, I withdraw my second on that motion.

President Manglona: You mean when the floor amendment was made?

Senator Adriano: I did second that. So, now I am withdrawing my second on that motion.

President Manglona: Okay, just so there is an understanding here. There was a motion that was seconded. We have discussed it and we have ended debate on the floor amendment.

Senator Adriano: So, let us vote.

President Manglona: So, we are voting on the floor amendment.

The motion to adopt the floor amendment as offered by Floor Leader Reyes failed to carry by voice vote.

President Manglona: Motion defeated.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, let the record show that my vote is “aye” on the floor amendment.

President Manglona: Thank you, Floor Leader Reyes. Are we still voting or discussing House Bill No. 12-212, CD1, HD1, SS1? Ready for discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, my vote is going to be “yes” on the substance of the bill because I recognize the fact that we need to stimulate our economy. My objection in that the use of handgun is dwarfed by the fact that the overall benefit to be derived in the investment is over twenty-five million dollars. That should not affect my personal feeling about the use of handguns. So, I just want to go on record saying that despite the defeat of my floor amendment. I wish to also support the intent of the bill in its general form. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Just a short comment, Mr. President. There is a letter written to me on December 4, by the Commissioner of Education. He said the version of the bill is good, he is the man in charge for safety reason. For the record, I thought that my explanation to the Youth Congress is very clear. The bill itself has a provision that there will be a police substation twenty-four hours a day and that is a very good safety reason.

Senator Atalig voiced “ready”.

The Chair recognized Vice President Villagomez.

Vice President Villagomez: Thank you, Mr. President. I am not going to be drawn out from the handgun, rifle or whatever on that one. I just want to make sure that it is understood that the investment is a minimum of twenty-five million dollars. It does not mean that they can start out with their shooting range before the construction of the rooms. They have to do the actual investment of twenty-five million dollars in the CNMI before anything else. Thank you.

Several members voiced, “ready”.

President Manglona: Senate Clerk, call the roll please.

Senator Adriano: Mr. President, I want to correct my good colleague Y2K. I think it is the Commissioner of Public Safety.

The Senate Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Senator Joaquin G. Adriano	Yes
Senator Ricardo S. Atalig	Yes
Senator David M. Cing	Excused
Senator Jose M. Dela Cruz	Yes
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	Yes
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Yes with extreme reservation
Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes, House Bill No. 12-212, CD1, HD1, SS1, passes the Senate.

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12-25: A SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC LANDS TO OPEN AND MAKE AVAILABLE NEW VILLAGE HOMESTEAD SITES ON THE ISLAND OF TINIAN TO ACCOMMODATE THE GROWING LIST OF ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE YET TO RECEIVE A HOMESTEAD LOT.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12-3: A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ASSIST AND PROVIDE \$1,500,000.00 TO UNDERTAKE TWO FEASIBILITY STUDIES SITES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 12-25 and Senate Joint Resolution No. 12-3 and several members seconded.

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded for the passage of these two resolutions. Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced "ready," and the motion to adopt Senate Resolution No. 12-25 and Senate Joint Resolution 12-3 carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: Both resolutions are adopted by the Senate.

PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: I just want to congratulate the Chairman of EAGI for moving the appointments for the Free Trade Zone and the Public Auditor, expeditiously. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Chair recognized Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. President. Since it looks like Christmas is just around the corner, I just want to wish each one of you a Merry Christmas and all the staff and I will save my peace for the New Year. Thank you, Mr. President.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair recognized Senator Adriano.

Senator Adriano: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to comment on the last budget, Mr. President. We passed budget 2001. At that time, when we were deliberating on that budget we have thrown all the credit and support to our good Chairman, Senator Maratita, which is maybe three truckloads full. At this point also, I would like to comment and give support to our Senate Clerk and Legal Counsel. They, too, worked very hard for that budget and the budget is now before the House. Thank you.

President Manglona: I don't know if this is the time to give thanks to all the staff knowing that we might have one more session before the end of the year. Just in case we are successful with the budget deliberation, I would like to thank everyone on behalf of the members, staffs and LB as well, as well as our own employees for their support this year. I would like to remind everyone that tonight is our Christmas party and please let us all try to attend and wish each other happy holidays at the Pacific Gardenia. Since there are only a few at the back (gallery), we might as well invite all of them and the media as well. I would like to thank the committee on R&D and especially Senator Guerrero for being very instrumental in coming out with the Senate Draft of the Shooting Gallery. I know that the investors, some of them are here this afternoon and they have been patiently waiting for the consideration by the Legislature on that piece of legislation. They have been waiting at our door, knocking, to invest. I know that this is such a critical legislation as is obvious in the debate, but we finally crossed the road on this issue and we hope that the House would likewise act on this investment bill. At the same time, I would like to encourage the budget committee to continue to try to be patient with the House so that we can come out with a conference budget report. Again, thank you and can we hear a motion for adjournment?

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President thank you. I have one additional comment under announcement, Mr. President. This is just to let the members know that I am drafting a legislative initiative to request the members to work as a part time legislators and I wish to ask their support on this initiative.

President Manglona: Thank you, Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Reyes moved that the Senate adjourned subject to the call of the Chair. Several members seconded and the motion carried by voice vote.

President Manglona declared the Senate adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ramona I. Kapileo
Senate Journal Clerk

Adopted: July 25, 2001

