

**THE SENATE
TWELFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION, 2000**

First Day

Friday, June 16, 2000

The Senate of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, First Day, Fourth Special Session, 2000, was called to order at 10:10 a.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 all nine (9) members were present.

President Manglona: Thank you. We have the necessary quorum to conduct today's business.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

1. Fourth Day, 1st Regular Session on 3/10/00
2. Fifth Day, 1st Regular Session on 3/15/00
3. First Day, 1st Special Session on 4/06/00
4. First Day, 2nd Special Session on 5/05/00

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Thank you, Mr. President. I move for the adoption of the following Journals; Fourth Day, First Regular Session, on March 10, 2000; Fifth Day, First Regular Session, on March 15, 2000; First Day, First Special Session, on April 06, 2000; and First Day, Second Special Session, on May 05, 2000.

Vice President Villagomez and Senator Adriano voiced, "second".

President Manglona: Is there any discussion on the journals?

Senator Guerrero and Senator Adriano voiced, "ready".

The motion to adopt the journals carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: The said journals pass the Senate.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, if there's no objection from the members, I would like that we move down to the Bill Calendar.

Senator Adriano: No objection.

President Manglona: No objection? I understand that we're meeting on Tuesday. If any member has any comment on any of the items on the Order of Business prior to the Bill Calendar, I appreciate if you make your comments in the next session.

Floor Leader Reyes: Just for the record, Mr. President, the Messages from the Governor and the other messages that are on the Calendar will remain on the Calendar for our next session. Thank you.

PREFILED BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sen. Bill No. 12-68: A Bill for an Act to amend Subsection 8131(a) and Section 8132 (c) of Article 3, Chapter 1 Div. 8 of 4 CMC; and for other purposes. (SEN. JOAQUIN G. ADRIANO – 06/07/00)

Sen. Bill No. 12-69: A Bill for an Act to amend Section 2123 and 2124, Article 2 Division 2 of 2 CMC; and for other purposes. (SEN. JOAQUIN G. ADRIANO – 06/07/00)

Sen. Bill No. 12-70: A Bill for an Act to vacant §304 of Executive Order 94-3 to return the responsibility of administering Development Disability programs to the Office of the Governor, and for other purposes. (SEN. THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ – 06/02/00)

Sen. Res. No. 12-12: A Senate Resolution honoring and commending Mr. Takashi Shirayama's vision and commitment in bringing the first and only world class golf resort and country club to the island of Rota and congratulating him upon the anniversary of Rota Resort and Country Club's fifth year of operations. (SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 06/02/00)

Sen. Res. No. 12-13: A Senate Resolution conveying the sincere condolences and sympathy of the Senate of the Twelfth Commonwealth Legislature to the bereaved family of the late Pedro Taisacan Nakatsukasa on the occasion of his untimely passing, and paying fond tribute to his memory. (SEN. THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ – 06/13/00)

Sen. Res. No. 12-14: A Senate Resolution extending the deepest sympathy and condolences of the Senate of the Twelfth Commonwealth Legislature, to the family, religious family (Society of Jesus), and friends and parishioners of the late Reverend Father Gary J. Bradley, SJ. (SEN. THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ – 06/14/00)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

None

BILL CALENDAR

SENATE BILL NO. 12-65: TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE ON MEDICAL AND HEALTH INSURANCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading, and Senator Guerrero and Dela Cruz seconded.

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Excuse me, Senator Atalig.

Senator Atalig: Thank you, Mr. President. This is the Health Insurance Task Force. The purpose of this act is to create a task force on medical and health insurance to study all different aspects of medical and health coverage that is reasonable and affordable to our people and the residents of the Commonwealth. And more importantly, a coverage that is more focused on the patient's welfare rather than the profit of the insurance or the carrier. With that, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. Thank you.

President Manglona: Thank you, Senator Atalig. 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	Yes
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

Nine (9) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of nine (9) yes, the Senate hereby passes Senate Bill No. 12-65 on Final Reading.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, can we have a very short recess?

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 10:16 a.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 10:18 a.m.

President Manglona: We're back to our regular session. The Chair recognizes Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Thank you, Mr. President. I need to make a motion to suspend pertinent rules in order for us to pass the bills that are on the Calendar for Final Reading. This motion should also include the bill that we have just passed, which is Senate Bill No. 12-65. I so move.

Senator Guerrero and Senator Adriano voiced "second", and the motion to suspend pertinent rules carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: Please, proceed Floor Leader Reyes.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-45: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND 4 CMC 5613 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes: The motion now is for the passage of House Bill No. 12-45 on Final Reading. This is a bill entitled, "A Violations of Business License Regulation". It's a bill, Mr. President, that at one time was vetoed by the Governor. It is now corrected and is responsive to the concern of the Governor. Thank you.

Senator Guerrero and Senator Adriano voiced, "second".

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded for the passage of House Bill No. 12-45. I understand, Floor Leader, that our Bill Calendar has that on First Reading. So, if there's no objection, we shall put that under the Final Reading Calendar.

Senator Adriano voiced, "no objection".

President Manglona: So the motion is to pass House Bill No. 12-45 on Final Reading. Is there any discussion? 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	Yes
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

Nine (9) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of nine (9) yes, House Bill No. 12-45 passes the Senate on Final Reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-38: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO GIVE FULL EFFECT TO THE SALARY INCREASE FOR TEACHERS AND TEACHER AIDES MANDATED BY PUBLIC LAW 10-35; TO CLARIFY THE TERMS OF PUBLIC LAW 10-35; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

President Manglona: Again, Floor Leader Reyes, Senate Bill No. 12-38 is not showing in our Final Reading Calendar. Because of our eagerness to get the session on time, that might have been an oversight. Can you please make the proper motion to place it on the Final Reading Calendar, if there's no objection?

Floor Leader Reyes: Thank you, Mr. President. This was one of the six that we have discussed. So that the record reflect the placement of this bill properly, I move to place Senate Bill No. 12-38 on the Final Reading Calendar.

Several members voiced, "second", and the placement of Senate Bill No. 12-38 on the Final Reading Calendar carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: Senate Bill No. 12-38 is so placed on the Final Reading Calendar. Now the appropriate motion for its passage, I believe, has already been made. Is there any discussion on the motion for the passage of Senate Bill No. 12-38?

Senator Cing: 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	Yes
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

Nine (9) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of nine (9) yes, Senate Bill No. 12-38 passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-154, HOUSE DRAFT 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMMONWEALTH STATE FUNERAL ACT (1 CMC § 453); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

President Manglona: Is there any discussion? I recognize Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: Mr. President, I have a floor amendment to this bill. On Section 1, please add a new Subsection (h) to read as follows: "Former elected Mayor and Legislatures and to reletter (h) to letter (i).

FLOOR AMENDMENT:

HB NO. 12-154, HD1

**Please add a new Subsection "h" to read as follows:
Former elected Mayor, and Legislatures
Reletter "h" to "i".**

/s/
Sen. Jose M. Dela Cruz

President Manglona: Is that an oral amendment?

Senator Dela Cruz: Yes, Mr. President.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion on the oral amendment as offered by Senator Dela Cruz?

Senator Adriano: No discussion.

The motion to adopt the oral floor amendment as offered by Senator Dela Cruz carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: We're back to the main bill, House Bill No. 12-154, HD1. Is there any further discussion?

Both Vice President Villagomez and Senator Adriano 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	Yes
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

Nine (9) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of nine(9) yes, House Bill No. 12-154, HD1 as amended, passes the Senate on Final Reading.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-173, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT T AMEND PUBLIC LAW 11-15 TO GIVE THE MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY THE POWER TO REGULATE COMMERCIAL ACTIVITES ON OR NEAR TOURIST SITES; TO FURTHER IMPROVE MVA MANAGEMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

The Chair recognized Senator Maratita.

Senator Maratita: Short recess, Mr. President.

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 10: 26 a.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

President Manglona: Floor Leader, there was a second for the passage of House Bill No. 12-173, HD1, SD1. I believe the members have copies of the Senate Draft One that is being moved by the Floor Leader. Is there any comment? If none, 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	Yes
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

Nine (9) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of nine (9) yes, House Bill No. 12-173, HD1, SD1, passes the Senate on Final Reading.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-202: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO RE-APPROPRIATE FUND BALANCES FROM PUBLIC LAW 9-24; TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW 11-17; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

President Manglona: It has been seconded. Senator Maratita.

Senator Maratita: Thank you, Mr. President. I have a floor amendment to House Bill No. 12-202. I believe all the members have copies.

Floor amendment to HB 12-202:

1. In the title, add a semicolon and the following after “9-24”: to amend “P.L. 11-7;”
2. Page 1, after line 9 and before line 10, insert the following:
Section 3. Amendment. Public Law 10-38, Section 3(b) as amended by Public Law 11-7, is further amended to read as follows:
“(b) First Senatorial District.
(1)\$1,700,00 for A&E and construction of JROTC and vocational/educational facilities, at Tatachog, for use by the Northern Marianas College. A vocational shop and JROTC classrooms including storage rooms at the Rota High.
(2)\$2,283,375 for A&E, construction and paving of village roads in Songsong and Sinapalo villages.
Notwithstanding any other section of this Act, expenditure authority for projects under this paragraph shall be vested in the Secretary of Public Works and the Mayor of Rota and no others. Delegation appropriations pursuant to this section are exempt from the limitations of 1 CMC §1402(b), but shall conform to 1 CMC §7103(g).”
3. Renumber existing Sections 3, 4, and 5 to be Sections 4, 5, and 6.

/s/
Sen. Edward U. Maratita

President Manglona: I believe that Senator Maratita is offering this floor amendment. Is there any discussion on the floor amendment?

There being no discussion, the motion to adopt the floor amendment to House Bill 12-38, offered by Senator Maratita carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: The amendment as offered by Senator Maratita passes. We're back to House Bill No. 12-202, as amended. Is there any further discussion?

Both Senator Guerrero and Senator Adriano 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	Yes
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

Nine (9) members voted yes.

President Manglona: By a vote of nine(9) yes, the Senate hereby passes House Bill No. 12-202, as amended, on Final Reading.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, without objection from the members, I would like to move to item “N” of our Order of Business, the Resolution Calendar.

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12-12: A SENATE RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING MR. TAKASHI SHIRAYAMA’S VISION AND COMMITMENT IN BRINGING THE FIRST AND ONLY WORLD CLASS GOLF RESORT AND COUNTRY CLUB TO THE ISLAND OF ROTA AND CONGRATULATING HIM UPON THE ANNIVERSARY OF ROTA RESORT AND COUNTRY CLUB’S FIFTH YEAR OF OPERATIONS. (SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 06/02/00)

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12-13: A SENATE RESOLUTION CONVEYING THE SINCERE CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHY OF THE SENATE OF THE TWELFTH COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY OF THE LATE PEDRO TAISACAN NAKATSUKASA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS UNTIMELY PASSING, AND PAYING FOND TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY. (SEN. THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ – 06/13/00)

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12-14: A SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE TWELFTH COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE, TO THE FAMILY, RELIGIOUS FAMILY (SOCIETY OF JESUS), AND FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS OF THE LATE REVEREND FATHER GARY J. BRADLEY, SJ. (SEN. THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ – 06/14/00)

Floor Leader Reyes moved for the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 12-12, Senate Resolution No. 12-13, and Senate Resolution No. 12-14. Vice President Villagomez and Senator Adriano seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion on any of the three Resolutions?

Senator Guerrero voiced, “ready”.

There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt Senate Resolution No. 12-12, Senate Resolution No. 12-13, and Senate Resolution No. 12-14, carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: The said Resolutions are hereby adopted by the Senate.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, again without objection I would like us to move down to Miscellaneous Business.

President Manglona: Motion on the floor to adjourn subject to the call of the Chair.

Several members voiced “second”.

There being no objection, President Manglona declared the Senate adjourned at 10:45 a.m. subject to the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,



Ramona I. Kapileo
Senate Journal Clerk

ADOPTED: July 20, 2000