

**THE SENATE
TWELFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 2001**

First Day

Friday, June 15, 2001

The Senate of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Legislature, First Day, Third Special Session, was called to order at 11:10 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.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, I would like to ask the members to pray for my father who's undergoing chemotherapy for his cancer.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Senate Clerk called the roll and all nine (9) members were present.

President Manglona: With all the members present, we have the necessary quorum to conduct today's session.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

None

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-693: May 22, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for SN-5 Enterprises.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-694: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Geotesting, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-695: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Aviation Services Ltd. Db a Freedom Air.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-696: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Diamond's Hotel.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-697: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Younis Art Studio, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-698: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for STL Incorporated.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-699: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for R& C Tours, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-700: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Irie Inc. db a S2 Club Rota.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-701: May 23, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for World Corporation db a Coral Ocean View Restaurant/Coral Tour.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-702: May 23, 2001 – Certification for two vacant positions in Emergency Medicine and Obstetric/Gynecology that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-703: May 23, 2001 – Certification for annual salary in excess of \$50,000 for Dr. Ian Donald Macleod and Dr. Jacqueline A. Tessen at the CHC.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-704: May 24, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Hard Rock Café (Saipan).

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-705: May 24, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Miramar Corporation.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-706: May 25, 2001 – Informing the Senate and the Tinian Legislative Delegation that he had disapproved SLB 12-5, entitled, “To establish and protect vegetation planted by and throughout a designated public place on the island of Tinian and Aguiguan; and for other purposes.” (DISAPPROVED ON 05/25/01)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-707: May 30, 2001 – Certification for vacant position of physician (psychiatry) at the CHC that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-708: May 30, 2001 – Certification for annual salary in excess of \$50,000 for Dr. Anthony a. Bottone at the CHC.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-709: May 30, 2001 – Nominating Mr. Francisco Muna Camacho to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the CUC to represent Saipan.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-710: May 30, 2001 – Informing the Legislature that SB 12-100, the “Rota Agricultural Homestead Amendment Act of 2001” as overridden by the Legislature is numbered Public Law 12-53. (PL 12-53 – 05/29/01)

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-711: May 30, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Jin Joo Corp.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-712: May 30, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for AIMS PLUS.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-713: May 30, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Paras Enterprises Saipan, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-714: May 30, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for CNMI Public School System.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-715: May 30, 2001 - PL 11-6 Exemption for Friendly Finance Co., Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-716: May 30, 2001 - PL 11-6 Exemption for Department of Public Health.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-717: May 30, 2001 - PL 11-6 Exemption for Department of Public Health.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-718: June 1, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Hiro Corporation.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-719: June 1, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Agbanlog Enterprises, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-720: June 1, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Boo Boo Corporation.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-721: June 6, 2001 – Certification for vacant position of Community Worker within the Tinian Municipal Council that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-722: June 7, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Ta Kanahau Nui, Dance School of Saipan.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-723: June 7, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Rainbow Health Tones, Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-724: June 7, 2001 – PL 11-6 Exemption for Candy Carousel Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-725: June 7, 2001-- PL 11-6 Exemption for Genpro International Inc.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-726: June 7, 2001-- PL 11-6 Exemption for Marianas Trekking.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-727: June 7, 2001— PL 11-6 Exemption for World Corporation dba Coral Ocean View Restaurant/Coral Tour.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-728: June 8, 2001—Certification for a vacant position of Senior Mayor's Aide within the office of the Mayor of Tinian that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-729: June 12, 2001— Certification for a vacant position of Land Title Investigator/Adjudicator within the Department of Lands and Natural Resources that must be filled during the period of continuing resolution.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-730: June 12, 2001—Nominating Mrs. Ana Demapan Castro to serve as a member of the Board of Public Lands Management.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-731: June 14, 2001 – Nominating Ms. Elizabeth Deleon Guerrero Aldan, Ms. Frances M. Sablan and Mr. Miguel M. Sablan to serve as members of the Election Commission to represent Saipan.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-732: June 14, 2001 – Nominating Mr. Jose L. Itibus (representing Saipan and Carolinians); Mrs. Carmen DLC Farrel and Mr. Mathew Masga (to represent Tinian); and Mr. Charles A. Manglona (to represent Rota) to serve as members of the Election Commission.

Gov. Mesg. No. 12-733: June 14, 2001 – Waiver of salary ceiling for Mr. Brian Bearden, Environmental Engineer, at the Division of Environmental Quality.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS

None

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

Hse. Comm. No. 12-254: Transmitting a certified copy of HR 12-145, HD1, entitled, "To support the appointment of Ms. Josephine DLG. Mesta for the position of Commonwealth Telecommunications Commissioner."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-255: Transmitting a certified copy of HR 12-146, HD1, entitled, "To support the appointment of Mr. Norman T. Tenorio for the position of Commonwealth Telecommunications Commissioner."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-256: transmitting a certified copy of HR 12-147, HD1, entitled, "To support the appointment of Mr. Victor B. Hocog for the position of Commonwealth Telecommunications Commissioner."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-257: Transmitting a certified copy of HR 12-148, HD1, entitled, "To support the appointment of Mr. J. Michael Fitzgerald for the position of Commonwealth Telecommunications Commissioner."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-258: Transmitting a certified copy of HR 12-149, HD1, entitled, "To support the appointment of Mr. Isidro K. Seman for the position of Commonwealth Telecommunications Commissioner."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-259: Informing the Senate that the House overrode the Governor's veto of SB 12-100, the "Rota Agricultural Homestead Amendment Act of 2001". (P.L. 12-53 – 05/29/01)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-260: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-186, HD1, entitled, "To amend provisions relating to the Village Homestead Program; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-261: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-373, CD1, HD1, entitled, "To reappropriate the sum of \$2,120,000 from PL 11-79 for capital improvement projects in Precinct I; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-262: Informing the Senate that the House voted to accept the Conference Committee amendment to HB 12-359, SS1, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to amend 4 CMC § 1803 by adding a new subsection (e) and to provide for a deputy marketing director for MVA for the first senatorial district and the second senatorial district; and for other purposes. (See CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 12-4)

Hse. Comm. No. 12-263: Transmitting a certified copy of HR 12-150, entitled, "Relative to recognizing, memorializing and congratulating Miss Aileen C. Ada, a senior at Marianas Baptist Academy, for winning the 18th Annual Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition on Friday, may 4, 2001, at the House of Justice, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-264: Transmitting a certified copy of HR 12-151, entitled, "To extend condolences and sympathy of the House of Representatives, Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature to the family of the late Jose Seman Iba for his untimely passing.

Hse. Comm. No. 12-265: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-103, CD1, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to create the Business License Application Task Force to formulate a plan for a One-Stop Business License Center; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-266: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-392, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to amend Public Law 10-41, Section 530(g) to allow reprogramming of unobligated fund balances to various community projects in the First Senatorial District; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-267: Transmitting for Senate action HB 12-393, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC §§ 6321, 6331(b) and 6342 to provide for the timely filing of nominating petitions for candidates for elective offices in the Northern Mariana Islands, to add a new Article 5 to Chapter 3; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-268: Returning without amendment SB 12-81, entitled, "A Bill for an Act governing the Maintenance and Release of Patient Health Care information; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-269: Returning without amendment SB 12-103, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to improve reporting and other requirement relating to child Abuse or Neglect; and for other purposes."

Hse. Comm. No. 12-270: Transmitting for Senate action House Legislative Initiative No. 12-13, HD1, entitled, "to amend Article Ii § 6 and Article VI of the commonwealth Constitution so as to treat each chartered municipality form of local governments within the Commonwealth on equal basis and to further empowered said municipal governments to pass local laws exclusively on local matters.

WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE'S COMMUNICATIONS

None

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-46: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. FRANCISCO M. CAMACHO TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION TO REPRESENT SAIPAN.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its adoption, and Senator Dela Cruz and Senator Guerrero seconded.

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: Ready? Since this is for confirmation, 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 confirms Francisco M. Camacho to serve as a member of CUC Board of Directors representing Saipan.

STANDING COMM. REPORT NO. 12-47: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. ANTONIO S. CAMACHO TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT SAIPAN.

Floor Leader moved for its adoption, 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	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 confirms Mr. Antonio S. Camacho to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Ports Authority representing Saipan.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 12-48: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS REPORTING ON THE GOVERNOR'S

APPOINTMENT OF MR. SIXTO K. IGISOMAR TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT SAIPAN.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its adoption, 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	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 confirms Mr. Sixto K. Igisomar to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Development Authority Board of Directors representing Saipan.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 12-49: FROM THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, WELFARE AND PROGRAMS REPORTING ON SENATE BILL NO. 12-64, SS1 ENTITLED, "A BILL FOR AN ACT TO CREATE A BIFURCATED STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND TO CREATE A COMMISSION TO OVERSEE THE LOCATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND TO SUPERVISE AND ADMINISTER SUCH PROGRAM."

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its adoption, and Senator Dela Cruz and Senator Guerrero seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Dela Cruz and Senator Guerrero voiced, "ready".

The motion to adopt Standing Committee Report No. 12-49 was carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: Standing Committee Report No. 12-49 passes the Senate.

SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 12-4: FROM THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTING ON HOUSE BILL NO. 12-359, SS1, ENTITLED, "A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND 4 CMC § 1803 BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (E) AND TO PROVIDE FOR A DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR MVA FOR THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT AND THE SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its adoption, and Senator Adriano and Senator Cing seconded.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced “ready” and the motion to adopt Conference Committee Report No. 12-4 carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: Conference Committee Report No. 12-4 passes the Senate.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President in reference to Conference Committee Report No. 12-4, I also asked that we place House Bill No. 12-359 on today’s Calendar for action.

Vice President Villagomez: House Bill No. 12-359 and what is that?

Floor Leader Reyes: This is on Conference Committee Report No. 12-4. May I ask for a short recess?

Vice President Villagomez: It’s on the Calendar.

Floor Leader Reyes: Short recess, Mr. President.

President Manglona declared the Senate in recess at 11:40 a.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 11:41 a.m.

President Manglona: Let us resume with our session. We’re still under Special and Conference Committee Reports.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, there is another Conference Committee Report that is unnumbered. I asked the Clerk to number it and I believe the number is 12-5. The members can just correct their copies and put Conference Committee Report No. 12-5. Mr. President, I move for the adoption of the conference committee report and the placement of House Bill No. 12-317, SS1, on today’s Calendar for action.

Several members voiced, “second”.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready” and the motion to adopt Conference Committee Report No. 12-5 carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: Conference Committee Report No. 12-5 passes the Senate.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

PREFILED BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sen. Res. No. 12-44: A Senate Resolution recognizing the lifetime contributions and commitment of the Honorable Tokuo Yamachita towards globally improving social, political, and economic conditions and for promoting world peace; and for engendering and facilitating greater economic and cultural ties between Japan and other Asian nations with the CNMI. (SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 04/20/01)

Sen. Res. No. 12-45: A Senate Resolution supporting the Proclamation of the Week of May 13 through the 19, 2001, as Police Week, in commemoration of all police officers for protecting and safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the people of the CNMI; and recognizing May 15, 2001, as Peace Officer’s Memorial Day, in honor of those officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. (SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA – 05/15/01)

Sen. Res. No. 12-46: A Senate Resolution to commend and gratefully acknowledge the outstanding achievements of Mr. Glenn M. Yasui, his many years of friendship, and his unwavering dedication in helping to

improve the road system of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. (SEN. PAUL A. MANGLONA 05/23/01)

Sen. Res. No. 12-47: A Senate Resolution to honor the memory of the late Senot Jose Seman Iba who passed way on May 19, 2001 and to express the Senate's condolences to his family and loved ones; and for other purposes. (SEN. RAMON S. GUERRERO 05/27/01)

Sen. Bill No. 12-115: A Bill for an Act to amend 4 CMC § 8141(d) regarding utility service rates; and for other purposes. (SEN. JOAQUIN G. ADRIANO – 04/23/01)

Sen. Bill No. 12-116: A Bill for an Act to establish the Board of Directors for Coastal Resources Authority and the Office of coastal Resources Management; and for other purposes. (SEN. JOAQUIN G. ADRIANO – 05/11/01)

Sen. Bill No. 12-117: A Bill for an Act to amend Public Law 12-18, the Northern Mariana Islands Election Reform Act of 2000, to provide for run-off elections in the event that no candidates for governor and lieutenant governor or resident representative to the United States garner at least fifty (50) percent plus one (1) vote of the total votes cast in any election; and for other purposes. (SEN. THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ – 05/22/01)

Sen. Bill No. 12-118: A Bill for an Act to amend the Commonwealth State Funeral Act (1 CMC § 453 et seq.) and to provide for municipal funerals and for other purposes. (SEN. JOSE M. DELA CRUZ +8 others – 05/23/01)

Sen. Bill No. 12-119: A Bill for an Act to repeal and re-enact sections of Public Law 11-84, as amended by Public Law 12-2; and for other purposes. (SEN. PETE P. REYES – 06/14/01)

Sen. Local Bill No. 12-10: A Local Bill for an Act to repeal Tinian Local Law No. 6-2 in its entirety and to regulate rooster gaming for the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan; and for other purposes. (SEN. JOAQUIN G. ADRIANO – 05/11/01)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sen. Bill No. 12-120: A Bill for an Act to authorize overtime pay for police officers and Lt. and above; and for other purposes. (SEN. E. U. MARATITA)

Sen. Bill No. 12-121: A Bill for an Act to amend section 3 of Public Law 12-14; and for other purposes. (SEN. R.S. ATALIG)

BILL CALENDAR

Floor Leader Reyes moved to suspend all pertinent rules in order to pass the bills on the Calendar and several members seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-359, SENATE SUBSTITUTE 1, CONFERENCE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND 4 CMC § 1803 BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (e) AND TO PROVIDE FOR A DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR MVA FOR THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT AND SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT; 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	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. 12-359, SS1, C1, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-288, COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR VISITOR CENTER, MEMORIAL GARDEN, AND EXHIBIT DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR VISITOR CENTER AT AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, I know this is a little controversial, but I would like to ask the consent of the members to assist us, the Saipan Delegation, in entertaining and supporting House Bill No. 12-288, the memorial park service. I would like to move for its passage on Final Reading.

Several members voiced, "second".

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Maratita: Mr. President, I will support House Bill No. 12-188, but I want to make it known to our colleagues here that this is going to be the last time a piece-meal CIP will be passed. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Chair recognized Senator Adriano.

Senator Adriano: On top of that, Mr. President, we have about \$35 million, \$60 million, at the House for the last six months. We continue to pass such bills that we have in front of us similar to what we have sent to the House and we can not continue like this. We have to get our CIP also from the House. So, we will support this in good working relation with the Saipan Delegation and we hope that this is the last appropriation. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: In line with the statements of my good colleague from Rota and our Chairman of the Tinian Delegation, Senator Adriano, I am asking also the support of the House of Representatives to expedite the CIP funding for the three Senatorial Districts because this is one way also that our dying, or I would say our struggling economy here in the CNMI can hopefully be improved. If we continue to implement this additional projects in our CNMI, just remember that this has a lot of multiplying effect on this particular money that is sitting untouched at this time. So, I share the sentiment of my colleagues from Rota and Tinian. I just want to share with you also that because of the project that we have in Tinian, the airport, with the help from let's say Saipan and Rota Delegation, I am supporting this particular project myself.

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: Mr. President, *an ti lache yo', taimanu ha' fino ta lokue ni ilekña este gue muna dies biahe na ta sangan na* "last time". By the time *na ta sangan ta'lo este last time seguro yo', haye tumungo, na hokog esta i CIP. Ya yanggen makat este mapatte huyong, tana anaku i tiempo ni para ta patte kuma huhulo i matiriad, mas gumaguaguan i che'cho yan mas mapot para ta accomplish tat komo i chalan giya Tinian, sewer line giya Tinian yan i pumalo siha na projects. Hafa gi magahet na motibu na sen makat para ta na'i islan Luta yan i Tinian ni iyon*

ñiha anai esta monhayan man akomfotma na este na percent iyom-mo, enao gue na percent iyon-ña? Hafa na sen makat para hu ma release gi House este? Malago 'yo' Mr. President report i membru gi next session, hafa na rason na makat este? Ya enao ni ta zero in iyot-ta effort ya ta pula' hafa gumogodde este. Mr. President, esta magpo este i last time. Pa'go bai hu bota "no" guine ya hu klaro este na this is the last time. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Chair recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Thank you Mr. President. CIP, i Delegation ginen Luta yan Tinian ni este na suppotasion para i Memorial Park. Pa'go monhahayan iyok-ko colleague si Senator Cing pot ilek-ña na mas de dies biahe. Ilek-ko, Mr. President, na komo ta atan na presisu na an para ta sotta i House of Representative sa pot i Constitution ni ilelek-ña na eyo gue i appropriation ni para hu tutuhon, pues bai hu rekomenda na maila' ya ta atan ya tafan dan-ña ya ta cho'gue i amendment i Constitution sa hu agree na an para siha i appropriation ya hita gi Senate para tafan matata'chong ha' ya para ta nanang-ga sa pot siha ni gaige i atoridat gi Constitution pot appropriation, pues maila' ya ta ina ya ta atan ya siña ta tulaika lokue ya ta cho'gue lokue ginen hilo sa ni achok-ha guahu ginen Saipan ma li'e yo' ya malago yu' para bai hu cho'gue hafa ya ti man adanche' hit yan i san papa na guma. Guaha problema sa siha ni gaige atoridat ya man gaige hit gi mercy of the House of Representatives sa pot i Constitution. Pues, an para ta na dinanche mo'na i taotao todo gi Commonwealth pues ta atan parehu ya tana' guaha lokue atoridat gi Senate anai siña man hahalom i appropriation para minaulek todú. Hu nana'i dangkulo na si Yu'us ma'ase Luta yan Tinian ni iyon ñiha understanding ya guahu komu Senadot Saipan yu', todo tiempo hu supopota i ginagao Luta yan Tinian. Obviously, desde ke humalom yo' Sumenadot, taya ni hu chanda. Pa'go ha' ni huchagi man gaogao suppotasion pot este i Memorial Park sa pot esta guaha salape ginen i CDA, mana'i \$2 million. Again, potno mas anaku, dangkulo na si Yu'us ma'ase para todos hamyo ya puede si Senator Cing ha tulaika botu-ña ya "yes" for the last time, pot uttimo. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Senator Atalig.

Senator Atalig: Magahet i fino'ña si Senator Guerrero. Guahu bai hu fan ayuda guine na project. Bai hu fan ayuda guine na appropriation pot i CIP para i Memorial Park. Lokue, yahu na un konsidera na i salape Luta yan i salape Tinian mamaigu ha taimanu ha' i fino ñiha. Mampos man na'masie ham Luta entre mas pa'go ni baba ekonomia, inangongo-ku mohon na utafaf este humuyong ya u vibrate gue i ekonomian Luta. Mampos man ma sasapet ham Luta, bula iyon mame projects siha giya Luta ya man mamaigu ha. Bai hu fan ayuda amanu nai siña ya angoko yo' na bai hu bota este pa'go na session yanggin ma planta este huyong. Lao, bai hu challenge i Saipan Delegation na pot fabot maila' ya in ayuda ham lokue gi salape mame. Taya in gagaogao na salape mame ha', ahe ti salape Tinian, ahe ti salape Saipan. Pot fabot bai hu challenge hamyo ya ta chagi muna ke huyong kosake guaha dididi adelantu giya Luta in terms of ekonomia. Ya ginen enao pot fabot ayuda ham yangging siakaso humuyong este lokue sa guaho bai hu ayuda hamyo pa'go. Si Yu'us ma'ase.

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: Mr. President, pot uttimo guine na issue. Malagu' yu' na u guaha mohon kinemprende ginen i Delegation Saipan na ti magpo ha' guenao chi-ña gi para uma nunok i CIP parehu ha' para Tinian yan Luta. I otro mamakat-ña ha', Mr. President, yanggin monhayan hit man apatte. Saipan ta'lo, i public works mu maneha ta'lo este na salape. Mas ta'lo bulan delay sa tisiña man mana'i hit ya hita para ta hire iyotta engineer, hita para ta cho'gue para ta aligaye ni taotao-ta para hu allulaye i project-ta. One classic example, Mr. President, pa'go ma susesedi taigue si Andrew Smith. Todo etyo siha ni esta para ta cho'gue agupa man stuck ta'lo pues sigi mo'na mas este umatman mas mu makat, mas gumaguan. Este guine punto-ko, Mr. President, ti enao ha' sa maulek yanggin enao na salape monhayan ma keep gi papa. Tafan ma fanue ta'lo ni interest. Lao guaha ni kontodo interest ta'lo man mumu hit. Pues kao sina nai etyi patte-ta bai hu chu'li esta ya bai hu aluk na iyokku esta ya guahu lamun mano para bai hu pegga. Ya hongge yo' na yanggin hu pegga este gi highway ya huna fonhayan esta chumohgue i highway Tinian hongge yu' na ti bai hu bira yo' magi ya bai hu fumaisen para highway ta'lo sa esta huna fonhayan. Ya enao para bai hu promete i Saipan na ti bai hu ta'lo mamaisen pot highway yanggin monhayan hu cho'gue. Sa hame giya Tinian inadadahe salape mame ya in chechegue mauleg kosake munga na para bain ta'lo chumo'gue. Enao ha, Mr. President, hu fafaisen ya uttimo este, basta hit ni este. Invisible iyotta para ta fan sigi ha hit mumu, kao tisiña esta ayo i na'i yo' bai hu na'i hao ya esta para in fan makpo? Kada man session hit, enao ilelek-ta, i last time. By the time na mato i last time taigue siempre i salape, hokog. Thank you.

President Manglona: Is there any other discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: We're voting on House Bill No. 12-288,CS1. 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	No
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, one (1) voted no, House Bill No. 12-288, CS1, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-363: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW 10-5 'THE COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM ACT OF 1996' (codified at 2 CMC § 4871 ET. SEQ.); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes moved for its passage on Final Reading and both Senator Dela Cruz and Senator Guerrero voiced second.

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	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. 12-363 passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-201 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REDUCE THE SECURITY THAT A BANK MUST PLEDGE IN BANK ASSETS FOR THE PROTECTION OF CNMI GOVERNMENT FUNDS DEPOSITED IN SUCH BANK FROM 110 PERCENT TO 100 PERCENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, under discussion? Mr. President, I would like to make an oral floor amendment. On page 1 of the bill, line 17, the underscored “or any instrument approved by the Director of Banking”, I would like to cross out “any instrument approved by the Director of Banking”, and insert “obligations and securities backed by the CNMI government”. So, line 17 would read “securities having readily ascertainable market value or obligations and securities backed by the CNMI government”. I so move.

Senator Atalig voiced, “second”.

President Manglona: An oral amendment is being offered by Floor Leader Reyes. Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, “ready”.

The motion on the oral floor amendment, as offered by Senate Floor Leader Reyes, carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: We are still discussing House Bill No. 12-201, CD1, as amended.

Several members voiced, “ready”.

President Manglona: Ready? 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. 12-201, CD1, as amended, passes the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-113: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE EXEMPTION TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS FROM THE REQUIREMENT OF NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CERTIFICATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (NCCPA); 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	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. 12-113 passes the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-64, SENATE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO CREATE BIFURCATED STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM FOR STUDNETS IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND TO CREATE A COMMISSION TO OVERSEE THE ALLOCATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND TO SUPERVISE AND ADMINISTER SUCH PROGRAM.

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, I have a comment on this particular bill. May I ask for short recess, Mr. President?

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 11:50 a.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 12:00 p.m.

President Manglona: We're back to our regular session after a brief recess. We're still discussing Senate Bill No. 12-64, SS1.

Floor Leader Reyes: My concern is on section 19, page 11, and subsection (h). The whole idea is to support students leaving to further their education and to encourage them also to return back and work for the government. On subsection (h) with respect to long conditions and credit for service, section (h) makes reference to students who return to the CNMI armed with a degree who are seeking for employment and unable to find employment within the period of six months. Upon request, it may be extended for another six months and then be required to pay the loan back. Well, for students who returned with a college degree and immediately found employment, whether it is private or public service, they are forgiven portion of their loan for every year that they are employed. And, I find this a little disturbing because we have situations of students who have returned from furthering their education, armed with degrees, armed with credentials to begin working, but unable for some reason to find employment. They have made diligent efforts to look for employment and continue to remain unemployed and be penalized because they are unable to find jobs. This is why I have introduced an initiative asking the government to put aside certain amount of the total resources in order to allow immediate employment of returning college graduates. I find this rather unfair that, let us say four students return at the same time. Two get employed and two are unable to find jobs, but have made diligent effort to seek employment, because jobs in government, for example, are taken by off-island hires and are blocking those positions. These employees would end up having to be penalized to pay back the loan while the other students that came are not required to make that payment. So, this is just a comment. I'm not going to change my vote in favor of the bill because I find the bill a very important and a needed bill, but I find this rather disturbing that when a student returns and is unable to find job that they be penalized. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: Mr. President *talo'lo' magahet* i good Senator from Saipan, *si* Senator Reyes *ni enao na* issue *nai*. It is very true, *kulan guiya este ma fanana'an* double trouble *nai*. *Etyi na estudiante ni ha bira gue tatte ya* fortunate enough *mañoda che'cho'-ña mana'i* further break *para hu ma dispensa nu i dibi-ña nai, ya pa'go etyi i ha bira gue tatte ya dimalas sa ti manoda che'cho'ña in tataka iyon-ña, debi na hu apasi tatte* full i student financial assistant. I think, Mr. President, I'm not saying I am supporting this bill because I was part of it with the good Chairman from HEW, *si* Senator Atalig. I think we should come out with a mechanism to try to strike a balance *guine na area sa kulan para ta further penalize etyi taotao-ta ni ha bira gue magi ya ti isao-ña*, for that matter, *na tisiña gue mañoda cho'cho' pat ti* available *ha nai*. *Pues*, I think we should put, *yanggin taya* objection *gi as* Senator Atalig, we should put a mechanic in there or something *ni para uma* rectify *enao* further. *Yanggin diligent este na taotao man aliligao magahet cho'cho' ya taya* available *nai*, then I don't think this individual should be penalized *yanggin manana'i* beneficial *etyi i mañoda este che'cho-ña pues uma mana'i* lokue the same benefit *este i taotao ni ha bira gue magi guine ya man aliligao cho'cho' nai*. *Dinanche si* Senator Reyes *ni etyu*, I commend you, colleague Atalig, for coming up with this scholarship bill. It is wonderful.

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: Thank you, Mr. President. First, I want to know if this bill also include those students that have finished their education, but choose not to return to the CNMI. What are we going to do with those students? The other is, I don't know if this one will solve the problem, but it seems like we almost tailored the very same thing, same loan as to what the Federal government would do in the past where you applied for student loan after college graduation. You have to serve any public school as a teacher, and they will deduct you a certain percentage for each year until you get rid of that loan. If we choose, let's say in the Commonwealth, we badly need teachers, if we just choose PSS as training ground or workplace for these college graduates, I think probably that would solve the situation here. Thank you.

President Manglona: Senator Atalig, do you want to comment?

Senator Atalig: *Fine'nina yahu bai hu oppe si* Senator Cing. *Atyu siha na estudiante man mañuli guine na* loan for example *ya monhayan i eskuelan ñiha ya ti ma bira siha tatte* Commonwealth, *siempre ha' ma apasi i* loan *ni ma ayao*. *Pa'go yanggin ha' choose mana'i i* loan *ya monhayan i estudion ñiha ya ha bira siha tatte gi* Commonwealth, *maseha manu ni hu facho'cho' Luta, Tinian pat Saipan, man mana'i* certain percentage. *Yanggin un choose na para un facho'cho' gi* private sector *mas chadek un apasi tatte iyon-mu* loan, *etyi ma'alok* credit service. *Yanggin macho'cho' hao gi* gobietno *ti parehu na* credit service *nu mana'i hao*. *Kumeke ilek-ko na i* concept *gue i para uma* stream line *i para-hu fan macho'cho' gi* government *ya para hu hanao guato gi* private sector. *I otro, iyon-ña* concern *si* Senator Dela Cruz *yan si* Senator Reyes *i page 12, line 19 (h)*. *I repayment guine, mana'i* six months time *ni para hu espiha che'cho-ña yanggin siakaso mana'i* six months time. *Yanggin ti mañoda gi halom* six months, *ma ekstende ta'lo* another six months *ni para hu fañoda che'cho-ña*. *Kalan ta po'lo pot* one year *este enao ni para hu fan espiha che'cho-ña*. *Magahet na yanggin siakaso ti mañoda gi halom* one month *etyi na tana'i i* commission *na para siha hu promulgate i* rules and regulation. *Ya yanggin ma li'e enao na ti macho'cho guenao siña mas ma ekstende* or whatever *ni para hu flexible para i famagu'on ni ma bibira siha tatte ya timan mañoda* within 12 months period. *Pues, i* commission *enao para hu promulgate i* regulation *ni para hu see fit para i famagu'on-ta*. Thank you, Mr. President.

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 12:27 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 12:35 p.m.

President Manglona: We're back to our session, we're still discussing Senate Bill No. 12-64, SS1.

Floor Leader Reyes: Ready for the previous question.

President Manglona: Is there any other 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. 12-64, SS1, passes the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-84, SENATE DRAFT 1: 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.

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

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Dela Cruz 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, Senate Bill No. 12-84, SD1, passes the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-119: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT SECTION OF PUBLIC LAW 11-84, AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 12-2); 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 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, Senate Bill No. 12-119, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-392: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW NO. 10-41, SECTION 530 (e) TO ALLOW REPROGRAMMING OF UNOBLIGATED FUND BALANCES TO VARIOUS COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT; 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 the 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. 12-392, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-393: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND 1 CMC §§6321, 6331(b) AND 6342 TO PROVIDE FOR THE TIMELY FILING OF NOMINATING PETITIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIVE OFFICES IN THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 3; AND FOR OTHER PUPROSES.

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	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. 12-393, passes the Senate.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, I have a very short comment on this bill regarding the amendment to the Election Law to change the time and the deadlines for submitting petitions. There were attempts to submit petitions before the effective date of the law, and those petitions were returned because the Board of Election had indicated that they would not received petitions until August 5, prior to this change. And the latest that they would receive that is sometimes in September. It just strikes me odd that they would restrict that because nothing in the law actually restricts that as far as my recollection is concern -- restricts anyone from submitting petition earlier than the deadlines. Isn't it odd that we're now amending this to bring the deadlines further back so that they would have sufficient time to order the sample ballots and the final draft ballots and it does not accept early submission of petitions so that they could begin reviewing the names. I just want to make that comment on record, so that maybe they could use these minutes of the session to reflect on some of the concerns we have. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: Mr. President, I did discuss this particular bill with the Executive Director of the Board of Election, and also, I did ask the question that our good Senator Reyes just brought up on early submission of petitions. And, according to the Executive Director, Mr. Sablan, he said that there is in the statute that restricts them from receiving the petition prior to a specified date. But, according to him, as soon as we pass this amendment it would give them an extra thirty (30) days to start receiving the petitions which is going to be thirty (30) days prior to August 4, I believe. Thank you, Mr. President.

President Manglona: Thank you, Senator Dela Cruz. Is there any further discussion?

Senator Cing voiced, "ready".

The Chair recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. President. During the committee meeting, for the record, this was brought up, apparently there was no input and I hope that when we we pass this and they start rolling the boat, no one would miss the extended deadline.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-376: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND THE COMMONWEALTH AUDITING ACT OF 1983 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING THE SECTION OF THE "NONRESIDENT WORKER EXTENSION ACT" AFFECTING THE ABILITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR TO HIRE NONRESIDENT PROFESSIONALS AFTER SEPTEMBER 30, 2000; AND FOR OTHER PUPROSES.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

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

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion on House Bill No. 12-376?

Several members voiced, "ready".

The Chair recognized Vice President Villagomez.

Vice President Villagomez: Mr. President, I thought there was supposed to be an amendment to the legislation.

Floor Leader Reyes: I do, Mr. President.

Senator Atalig: I think I have an amendment too, but since we have the same amendment with Floor Leader Reyes, I'll give Floor Leader Reyes the chance to....

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: I would like to inquire some information. If I'm not mistaken, it was only three months ago when we passed the bill to stop the office of the Public Auditor from hiring non-resident workers. If I am correct, then what are we doing here trying to pass another bill to hire non-resident workers?

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: This bill is basically the same bill that we have passed. Apparently, the House decided not to act on the bill that the Senate passed with respect to the public hearing we called where the members of the committee had uncovered several surprises under the office of the Public Auditor. The new Public Auditor is committed to work with the members and support the Senate's version of the bill. The House introduced a similar version, but there were some concerns that need to be addressed in order to reflect some of the measures that we include in the original bill from the Senate -- maybe minor reformatting of the House Bill, just to improve the bill I believe. And, that is something that I'm offering here. If the members would allow -- me, we're not in recess. Are we, Mr. President?

President Manglona: No, we're still in session.

Floor Leader Reyes: If the members would allow me to read the floor amendment that I am offering.

Floor Amendment on House Bill No. 12-376

1. On page 2, line 2, strike out 2000 and insert 2001
2. On page 2, line 28, strike out "shall only be allowed to hire nonresident professionals"
3. On page 2, line 30, strike out "resident applied to an advertisement for a professional's position"
4. On page 3, line 3, strike out "A nonresident worker permit shall not be issued or renewed for the Office of the Public Auditor unless the Office of Personnel Management certifies that no resident professional is available to fill the position"
5. On page 3, line 29, strike out entire sub (h)
6. On page 4, insert a new Section as follows:

Section 6. Amendment. 1 CMC §7823 is amended by adding subsection (f) to read as follows:

§ 7823. Audit Procedures and Requirements

(f) shall be unlawful for any person in possession of, with knowledge of, or privy to information contained in a preliminary audit and proposed findings report (draft audit report) to disseminate, release, disclose or other wise reveal the substance of such report to anyone not included in the report's distribution list, unless necessary for agency comments.

A violation of this subsections shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than six months, or a fine of not more than \$ 1,000.00 or both.

7. Following Sections be numbered accordingly.

Date: 08/02/01

Offered by: _____ /s/
Sen. Pete P. Reyes

President Manglona: I believe that all the members have copies of the floor amendment.

Senator Atalig voiced, "second".

President Manglona: Is there any discussion on the amendment? Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: Only to the author of the amendment. Senator Reyes, on number 4, why are you striking out this protective clause here? I think we should just leave it because that's one way that we can revisit this particular agency on a year-to-year bases for renewal.

Floor Leader Reyes: Right. The reason for that is because the Office of the Public Auditor has its own personnel within their operation. They handle their own personal management.

Vice President Villagomez: Point of order. I think there's a floor amendment that was offered, was there a second?

Floor Leader Reyes: I checked with the Public Auditor before I made these changes because I suspected they do have their own personal management office and he confirmed that they do.

President Manglona: Is there any discussion on the amendment?

Senator Guerrero: Mr. President, my only concern is how many does the Public Auditor still have presently that a position might look like it has to be filled by other than local residents. If we agree to this condition, we might still open the door to those that do not want. That is my concern, Mr. President.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, first let me say that when we drafted the Senate version, we agreed that the number to be authorized for recruitment of non-resident workers is limited to five (5). The Public Auditor in that public hearing made a statement. Even though we authorized for five, it would be a discretion upon the Public Auditor and he's going to use every discretion to avoid, and for all practical purposes, he may not need all five to be renewed and it appears quite clear now that several days ago when the Public Auditor called for a press conference, there were five resident workers that were recently hired under the program established. I guess when the Senate raised that concern, and in working with the community, the Public Auditor had conducted over a hundred conferences with students, with institutions, the colleges, the high schools, encouraging students to get into the professional fields needed by the Public Auditor's Office. In fact, there were, out of thirty-four (34) applicants that were submitted, those who were qualified for those position that are advertised by the Public Auditor. One is a CPA and there were local resident workers and the others were college graduates, some with multiple bachelors degree and there were two masters degree of those that have applied. So, it becomes pretty clear to me and to the Public Auditor that they may reduced the need, even with the total of five that we have authorized in the original Senate bill for him to renew contracts, and we're seeing more and more local resident workers applying who were not interested previously because of the restriction in allowing advancement for interns within the Public Auditor's Office to move up in their career. That restriction is no longer there, and so the response is overwhelming in the call for the Public Auditor to attract resident employees to apply.

The Chair recognized Vice President Villagomez.

Vice President Villagomez: Thank you Mr. President. I know I have reservations on this bill during the public hearing that we had. I asked the Public Auditor, Mr. Mike Sablan, whether this office can survive without any non-resident workers. And, it's true and he did point out that he can survive and we have a lot of kids that are interested

in working in the Office of the Public Auditor. If we're going to give them another exemption to authorize the recruitment of non-resident workers in the Office of the Public Auditor, I believe those kids that are interested would not have that opportunity to apply and be accepted in that Office. So, I was going to wait until after the adoption of the floor amendment. But, personally, I have a big reservation on this legislation. Since the Public Auditor have pointed out that he can survive without non-resident workers, I will not be voting for this legislation. Thank you.

President Manglona: This is on the floor amendment. Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Yes, Mr. President. In line with Senator Villagomez, during that public hearing, I personally asked the Public Auditor whether he had contacted local people and he said he had talked to some in the States that are CPAs. Even at that public hearing, I said he should pick up the phone and offer them the job and have them come to the Commonwealth so he can start making the replacement. I asked him to let me know, but he never came back to me and inform me about this. That's why I also have reservation voting on this amendment, Mr. President. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Thank you, Mr. President, this will be my final comment on this. The Public Auditor's concern is about the continuity in the office and he had asked for five and I believe that, in some point in time, a discussion about this extension occurred between him and Senator Villagomez. I'm not sure whether Senator Ray Guerrero has also discussed this with the Public Auditor, but I think the need for additional five is to ensure that the training does not stop within the office of the Public Auditor, that there is a continuity in the programs that is being administered by that office and we have to trust the Public Auditor in his discretionary judgement. He had demonstrated competency and reliability, in my view, in an effort to try and reach out to try and hire local resident workers. The last couple of days that I've shared with him statistics on responses from the calls made by his office on his own personal effort is overwhelming. I asked my colleagues to actually join the Public Auditor, not me, because this is not for me, this is for the Office of the Public Auditor, in supporting his call, his request. Because in this legislation, as you probably know, there is also a provision that would ensure that the qualified and competent Public Auditor that we have right now does not leave us and that provision is to increase the salary of the Public Auditor. Now that we have a reliable and competent local resident Public Auditor, we need to safeguard that he does not leave us to go into other endeavors in his life. And I ask my colleagues to support this amendment and the bill. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: Thank you, Mr. President. I have nothing against the amendment. I am only concern of the 360 degrees turn around like I said, Mr. President. Three months ago we passed a bill to get rid of the non-resident workers that are currently being employed at the Office of the Public Auditor. I believe what prompted the Senate to take action on that was because the previous Director or Secretary at the Office of the Public Auditor extended the contracts of those non-resident workers before the expiration date. Now, probably the House was correct when they didn't pass our bill three months ago, but that does not concern me so much compare to our action here today in trying to pass a bill opposite of what we passed three months ago. Probably, the House was correct. And probably, maybe our action today is correct and our action three months ago was wrong, but I need a justification here. Why a 360 degrees turn around within a very short period of time? I have nothing against the amendment, whatsoever, or the House's action. It's only our action here. We just passed this three months ago and then we are back to pass another that is entirely different from our first action. Is it different?

Floor Leader Reyes: Can I request for a short recess, Mr. President.

Senator Cing: I don't want to be misconstrued here, Mr. President. I don't want to be labeled here also that we did pass the one three months ago because Mr. LaMotte is a statesider. We are turning around now to pass a different one because we have a local. I don't want to be labeled like that. I want to pass a bill that is a good bill for everybody. Thank you.

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 12:40 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

President Manglona: Let us resume with our regular session. We're still discussing the floor amendment offered by Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, I would like to recall my motion and defer the bill or leave it on the Calendar. But, I would correct the amendment to include limiting it to five. If the members are satisfied, then that's what I'll do and we'll pick it up at on our next session.

President Manglona: So, if there's no objection House Bill No. 12-376 will not be addressed in today's session and it will come up at a later session. Thus, we would not be entertaining the original motion.

SENATE BILL NO. 12-118: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMMONWEALTH STATE FUNERAL ACT (1 CMC §453 ET SEQ.) AND TO PROVIDE FOR MUNICIPAL FUNERAL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

President Manglona: Is there any discussion on House Bill No. 12-118, on the State Funeral legislation?

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	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. 12-118 passes the Senate.

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE NO. 12-001, HOUSE SUBSTITUTE 1: A HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE XV, SECTION 1 (e) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NOTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS REGARDING PUBLIC EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Senator Atalig: Mr. President, I would like to make an amendment to this on page 1, line 12, (e) and I'll read it: "The public elementary and secondary education", my amendment should be (.) Public Health and Department of Public Safety shall be guaranteed and annual budget of not less than 25% of the general revenues of the Commonwealth. That's my amendment.

Senator Guerrero voiced, "second".

Floor Leader Reyes: Senator Atalig, could you repeat that amendment, again.

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: Mr. President, because I have a better amendment.

Senator Atalig: So, please state your amendment.

Senator Cing: If I am in order, Mr. President, I would like to further amend what Senator Atalig have just amended. I would like to give the PSS 30% instead of 25%, and that would equal to 45%. The 15% that they are getting now from the Constitution plus 30% that would be 45%. I would also like to see that CHC for referral get 30%, Public Safety 15%, and after that let us close the Legislature. Because we had distributed all the general funding already.

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 12:52 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 1:07 p.m.

President Manglona: We're back to our session. After discussing House Legislative Initiative No. 12-001, I believe there's some understanding to entertain this at our next session.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, the consensus is to withdraw the motion on this particular bill and leave it on Calendar, so that by next session we would have a committee report drafted to allow the members to act.

President Manglona: So, is there any objection to that agreement? There being no objection, the motion is recalled. This bill is deferred until the next session.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, the understanding earlier is that House Bill No. 12-381 will be picked up the next, suppose to be this afternoon, so that I could make the amendment to reflect the appropriation of funds to address the need for the hazardous differential that the House Bill calls for. And, at the same time, the Leadership has agreed that an amendment should also be made to include retroactive payment for deserving government employees under Public Law No. 7-31. So, for now, I would yield to the consensus of the members and not make that motion for passage of this bill under that agreement. I move on to make a motion for the passage of House Legislative Initiative No. 12-003, CD2, on Final Reading.

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE NO. 12-003, COMMITTEE DRAFT 2: A HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE XI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS REGARDING PUBLIC LANDS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded.

Senator Atalig: Thank you, Mr. President. I have an amendment here also to this legislative initiative and this amendment would change the legislative initiative to Legislative Initiative 12-003, CD2, SD1. This would be consistent with the scholarship bill that we have already passed, and, that we have another source for the scholarship bill in terms of indigeneous students that will be accommodated in this particular scholarship bill. I have the legislative bill here for the members. This particular legislative initiative is provided for those private landowners to be compensated, and at the same time, I have amended to include the scholarship source of funding in this legislative initiative. Thank you.

President Manglona: Short recess.

The Senate recessed at 1:35 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 1:50 p.m.

President Manglona: We're back to our regular session.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, with the consent of the members and especially from the Chairman of HEW, I would like to withdraw the motion on House Legislative Initiative No. 12-3 and have the members review it later on for action.

Senator Cing voice, "second".

President Manglona: There being no objection, please proceed, Floor Leader.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-378, HOUSE DRAFT 2: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$700,000.00) FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING IN THE TANAPAG VILLAGE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Senator Dela Cruz: That's the general appropriation?

Floor Leader Reyes: It's a land trust appropriation, but I'm making an amendment to change the source. It's not an appropriate funding source.

Senator Adriano: I think we should send that bill to the appropriate committee, Mr. President.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, let me justify my amendment before we defer this if that's the consent of the members.

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded. We're under discussion, so you just go ahead and....

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, my floor amendment is to change the source of funding from MPLT to Division of Public Lands, and the reason for this is because Public Lands is responsible for developing the sites for homestead areas. The obligation of the Division of Public Lands is to make sure that they subdivide the area and make it safe for homestead applicants to relocate. Their obligations include providing for infrastructure development in that area including water, power, roads subdivision, and making it a healthy and safe environment. Because that is part of their obligations, funding should appropriately be sourced out of the Division of Public Lands rather than from MPLT. So, my amendment is to do just that. If the members agree to entertain this bill, then I would go on and make that appropriate floor amendment. I have passed out the written floor amendment on this bill. As you know, Mr. President and members, there's an urgent need to address the PCB issue and other toxic matters in Tanapag. The people have been subjected to a very unhealthy environment for a very long time. The government in fact, have not lifted any finger to help these residents in Tanapag and many of them have come to the effect of the PCB and are no longer here to seek our support to help. But, those that are still there are crying out right now for the Legislature in a humble and compassionate way. I'm asking all my fellow colleagues in the Senate to join me in supporting this bill. I plead with the members to help me support this bill.

The Chair recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. President. You know, Mr. President, the newspaper today talks about how the money is spent for Tanapag contracts, whatever. The credibility *ni hu a'atan guine*, Mr. President, what Mr. William Ben is saying how the money--the Attorney General is playing around with PCB, with all these amount of money. *Hunggan hu komprende i probleman* Tanapag, Mr. President, *sa dangkulu botu hu gue anai malagu yu'*. *Lao, i source of fund an para ta atan iyok-ku* colleague i Floor Leader. Let us look at MPLC. *Todu salape ni ha regenerate*, a certain percentage *humahanao para iyon ñiha* operation. *I otro*, the bigger percentage goes to Public

Land Trust. *Ya an este na bill ginen i House nu ma asersert ta'lo na parauma chu'li salape gi Public Land Trust, then I would highly suggest na ta bira este papa gi House ya uma tungo lokue i House hafa ma cho'cho'gue. Hafa na para i Public Land Trust ni para uma chu'chu'lie i salape pa'go sa esta taya otro ni sina parauma chu'lie. I otro, komu tana sietbe i two million umana halom gi appropriation ya ta li'e manu ni para uma cho'gue este. Ti para sigi ha. I otro iyok-ku question, Mr. President, is I would highly recommend hayi responsible pat Chairman este ya maila fan ya ta oversight hearing este i Attorney General's Office ya ta find out lokue hafa man masusesedi sa man halom pot CUC, man halom pa'go gi Tanapag man ma'agan for two million dollars. Tita tungo manu guine an siña, let us do this. It's very confusing hafa masusesedi. Thank you.*

The Chair recognized Senator Maratita.

Senator Maratita: *Infotmasion ha' este. Mr. President, an ti lache yo' over five-seven years taya na man reside i MPLT ginen i Public Lands. I Public Lands kana ma lalachai ha' i salape, siha gumagasta. Ya dispensa, Senator Guerrero, lao for five to seven years timan reside Marianas Public Land Trust salape ginen i Public Lands. Thank you.*

The Chairman recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: *Hu agree yan si Senator Maratita during i Outer Cove na hearing. Hu faisen si Mr. Lamote trabiha tima apapasi and I totally agree. Baihu supkota na hunggan dinanche si Senator Maratita. There's about \$13 million tima nana'i trabiha guato i MPLT. In fact, esta pa'go na ora tima nana'i yu' nu etyo na respond ginen i Public Auditor. Malak manu yan i Public Land? Manu etyo i MPLC na hana sietbe na salape. Pues, these are all questionable, Mr. President. I agree with Senator Maratita. \$13 million has not been paid back to MPLT.*

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: *Thank you Mr. President. Tanapag nu, Mr. President, sumasanao gi etyi kinendena un tiempo nui militad ya propio na ufan mamaisen i taotao-ña guine gi MPLT. Para guahu propio enao, lao Mr. President, i kuestion-hu guine, kao guaha Specialist esta dumetetmina taimano magahet este i PCB na dinangkulon damage bida-ña Tanapag? Kao guaha guine areglu, sense of direction? Sa kulan pa'go man gaige hit prisente gi etyi i todo hit man panic ya tita tungo esta hafa para ta cho'gue. Man mangge Federat ni dupotsi para hu detetmina este? Man mangge etyi na taotao ni para hu detetmina este ya tafan ma enfotma magi kao magahet na enao I \$2 million, yanggin para ta na'i este ti nahong este na lugat, Mr. President. Este I \$2 million. Debidi ta na fan suha este siha na taotao Tanapag esta ke monhayan todo este siha man ma guaduk siha papa ya man ma kula ya man-ma amie todo i lugat ni siña ta alok na uma bira siha halom. Manu ni man gaige hit ni para ta sigi ha, kulan blind shot este para ta cho'gue para ta na'i siha salape 2 million pues otro mes ta'lo tuminahong. Tita tungo hafa ta chocho'gue guine. Thank you.*

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: *Mr. President, again, without having to repeat iyok-ku statement, yanggin ta atan linala taotao, Mr. President, ya hutungo ha' na guaha obligation i militad pot este siha na problema. Este na bill ha a'agang, ha gagaogao \$700,000 ni para umana gasgas i homestead area to remove the toxic items that are currently there ya munga na utafan ineffekta i hinemlo yan i linala residente yan taotao-ta ni man ma assign partial of land gue na homestead. Right now, the immediate need is to clean that area out. The \$700,000 that they're asking is to enable i clearing and removal of those toxic items so that they can built their houses in a healthy and livable environment. Yanggin para ta nagga, Mr. President, i militad para hu react ya ta kone para i kotte for example, it takes years before that thing is resolved. Dispues, in the mean time, man inefefek-ta siha taotao-ta ya man gef nama'si yanggin tisiña i local government ha raise assistance to make that area safe for our people. I think that in this particular case, and Senator Cing is absolutely right, for many years etyo na area was condemned and so it is appropriate for the residents of that area to seek assistance, ask for funding to clean it up, and all I'm asking the members is munga na tanang-ga esta ke man malangu dispues man matai taotao-ta, dispues para tafan achikad halom haye para ufan ayuda because they need help right now. Parehu ha este yan i medical referral program. Let us not wait because we can not place price tags on people's lives and all they need right now to address the immediate danger is to assist in the appropriation of \$700,000. And I again, I've never done this in my entire career as a public official, but I beg my members, I beg my colleagues to please help out. I'm begging to help us make this funding available. Thank you.*

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. President. *Magahet serious este na concern pot i PCB na contamination sa bineno hombre este. Lao at the same time lokue nuebu este na homestead giya Tanapag. I prefer yanggin siña ha answer este si Senator Reyes kao esta Senator Reyes humuyong i report yan kao guaha instruction ginen Environmental kao etyi ni man gaige uriyan etyo nisisario ma remove instead of creating a new homestead within that vicinity? Another thing, Mr. President, guiya este etyi i another way of piece-meal legislation, or piece-meal appropriation. I think yanggin ti ha mind i Chairman i salape guine—I Senate malagu mamatinas motion ya hu ma refer este guatu gi iyon-ña committee maseha un semana ya hu atan ñaihon ha' este kao magahet na guaha salape gi MPLC \$700,000 sa achuka ta pass este pa'go yanggin taigue I \$700,000 gi MPLC, taya bali-ña.*

The Chair recognized Senator Maratita.

Senator Maratita: Let us not get it from MPLC, let us get it from Public LandS.

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz

Senator Dela Cruz: Recommending, *lao we'll be referring it to your committee and look into that. Kao magahet na guaha salape gue? Sa achuka ta pass este ta'lo sa kulan parehu yan i retroactive esti ni ta pass ya tai salape. Pues, maila ya ta check naya kao gaige enao na salape ya enao gue na ta pass.*

The Chair recognized Senator Maratita.

Senator Maratita: *Hafa bidan ñiñiha ni golf courses siha?*

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: That's what I'm saying. Let us look into it *ya gigun gaige enao I \$700,000 then we can come back and address the concern.*

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, may I offer a comment on that good information that Senator Dela Cruz has just raised. I think that if we pass this into law, the Division of Public Land will be obligated to make sure that the funding becomes available over other operation funding that the they usually make or other priorities that they place when they receive leases by the use of public land. So, if we don't act on this, then again, the discretion on the use of all those lease funds will be subject to their own priority, and anything less than enacting legislation into law would be just ignored.

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: Mr. President, *ti hu kokontra este, Mr. President, sa guaho lokue concern yo' nu este yanggin siakasu na magahet na binenu este taimano ha etyi i fino'-ña si Senator Dela Cruz. Etyo ha malago' hu, i mang-gi i report anai siña ta base hit ni para ta aligao-ye chalan gi chadek na manera ya tana safu este na problema. Unu ta'lo, Mr. President, i Administrasion libiano sa yanggin emergency este ya ma determine na emergency, pues i Administrasion debi de hu deklarar i State of Emergency ya hu reprogram departments guine ya uma tackle este sa hu famuno' taotao. Lao manu ni para ta base hit guine? Esta pa'go sigiha ni man dibatte i DEQ yan todo este siha. Ta nisisita concrete guine ni para ta base hit na hunggan este bineno. Enao gue guenao malago' ho. Ti para haye ha guine huyong para ufan espanta--ha kuentusi si Fillano yan inespanta mapos, lao man buruka ya para hu espanta hit lokue. I need something concrete, maila' magi i report na bineno este ya ta kollat enao ya lagnos huyong I taotao-ta ya ta gastaye ni manu ni hu para ufañaga ya ta aregla enao na lugat. Yanggin nisisisario I Federat na para ufan ayuda, pues debide ta fan parehu, i lehislatura yan kon todo i Administrasion, man buruka lago gi Federat na bineno este ya ta na'i ha atension enao. Thank you.*

The Chair recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: *Iyok-ko guine concern, again, ti malago' yu mansupota as much as I can. Iyok-ku concern ta nisita ta agang i DEQ ya hu tuge'i hit katta na it is a dire need na ma nisista este na salape. Kumu ta taitai i newspaper, i controversy within PCB Tanapag, i DEQ, USCPA, i USEPA ilelek-ña na tinahong iyon ñiha test result to show na not hazardous now. Uno, confusing. Dos, an para ta atan este, pues maila' ya ta a'agang i DEQ ya hu fongge katta ya hu supkota este na enfotmasyon sa apparently, taya hu lili'e trabiha dokumentu. I otro, let us look at the facts an ilek ñiha na contaminate hit, pues hafa. Sigiha etyi i animas siha ni man matai sigiha man mahafut in a contaminated area an etyi gue we need to know manu na destansia ni gaige contamination. Sa an para ta hafut i matai-ta giya Tanapag ya dispues para uma guaha sa para ufañuha sa contaminated. Maila ya ta atan este. It is not an easy thing. Yahu man ayuda taotao lao dinanche si Senator Cing. I gobietno kumu guiya gobietno Marianas, ya mana'i notisia officially na it is, it is so easy para hu declare i State of Emergency ya hu mobilize todo i guaha na salape, polo achogha hokog i salape Commonwealth. Lao, that's what a Natural Emergency State of Declaration kumeke ilek-ña. Ha nullify todo guaha na public law, desdi public law 1-1 esta uttimo-ña. Ya hu chuli'e tododo i salape ya ta satba todo i problema. Enao gue iyok-ko concern, Mr. President.*

The Chair recognized Floor Leader Reyes.

Floor Leader Reyes: One last comment, Mr. President. I quote "Each person has the right to a clean and healthy public environment in all areas including the land, air, and water, harmful and not necessary noise pollution and the storage of nuclear or radioactive material and the dumping or storage of any time of nuclear waste within the surface or submerge land and waters in the Northern Marianas are prohibited as provided by law". This \$700,000 will be spent in making environmental sampling and consultation pursuant to the provision in the Constitution. If we don't do this right now--I think that time is catching up with the residents there. If we don't act on this, I'm afraid that we're going to see more people getting sick. And, when it is too late they're going to tell us *na hafa pa'go ni esta atrasao para infan achikak man man ayuda? Pa'go ni ma nisisita ya trabiha ti atrasao. Esta buente atrasao para several families. Lao mientras guaguaha remedio para tafan man ayuda*, I'm asking again the members, please help.

The Chair recognized Vice President Villagomez.

Vice President Villagomez: Thank you, Mr. President. I believe the purpose of this legislation is to appropriate \$700,000 for environmental sampling and consultation in Tanapag village. Mr. President, *yan miembro, guahu lokue bai hu faisen ñaihon ha este na ayudu ya tana'i fan este. Yanggin magahet i Administrasyon na guaha patte siha enfotmasyon-ña na esta clear Tanapag ni contamination ni enao, siempre ha veto i legislation. The purpose of this bill i para ta sodda'i salape, para tana'i ya umana' seguro na u-guaha sampling ya umana seguro na safe i lugat. Taya enfafaisen i para ta pasa ya tana'i guato i Administrasyon. Yanggin magahet i Administrasyon na guaha enfotmasyon-ña esta safe i lugat, hu provide hit ni enao. Yanggin taya iyon-ña enfotmasyon ni enao pues ilek-ña na nisisita uma estudiaye, uma chuli etyi siha sampling. Enao ta gagaogao. Tita gagaogao na para tafan mana'i benefisio pat oportunidad para haye guine, na para umana guaha salape ni parauma chuli sampling ni enao. Yanggin humuyong i DEQ ya ilelek-ña na esta todo ma komple, ilek-ña Army Corps of Engineer na esta tododo ma komple, siempre i Gobietno ha ina kao magahet enao siha na enfotmasyon. Yanggin timagahet pues siempre ha fitma este. Yangging esta ilek-ña na satisfetchu i Administrasyon ni enfotmasyon siha ni mana'i gue gi iyon-ña agency, illek-ku na siempre ha veto este. I guess i amendment para guatu gi from Land Trust hu agree na ha nisisita na uma amenda etyi lao kao siña tana fo'na este na patte ginen i Division of Public Lands yanggin etyi ni para ta chuli salape-ña. Thank you.*

The Chair recognized Senator Adriano for the first time.

Senator Adriano: Thank you, Mr. President. *Debi ha ta supkota este na klasen programa sa mañeluta esti giya Tanapag I man mamadedesi. Lao kana esta kasi guaha dos anos esti I \$700,000. Tisiña i Delegation Saipan ha usa i CIP ni este ni para u lachadek? Sa ilek-ku na chadek-na an ta usa i CIP guine, Mr. President, ke este para ta sigi ha pumatcha este Land Trust Fund. Esta kasi I salape gi Land Trust Fund pat i Public Lands man ma earmark guato para i homestead siha yan hafa siha nisisario. Yanggin siña ta patcha CIP ni para ta akudi Tanapag, ensigidas ta supkota enao. Si Yu'us ma'ase.*

The Chair recognized Senator Maratita.

Senator Maratita: Thank you, Mr. President. *Guahu lokue hu suppopota este mañeluta guine gi problema. Ya baihu na'e notisia lokue gi mismo tiempo i man gatchongta guine, i Senadotta ginen Tinian yan Saipan, na munga na an mato i budget hu tafan mumu ta'lo pot patten este Public Lands na salape. Ya yanggin ilek ñiha Tinian pat Luta lokue in nisisita este na ayuda bai hu faisen lokue enao na ayudu sa hu tungo' ha na guiya este na resources ta'lo para uma usa guine gi mamaila' na budget. As a matter of fact, gi 2001 i Floor Leader ha pegga halom guine fana'an \$250,000. Ya pues ha collapse gue i budget ya estague ta'lo na ha increase gue gi \$700,000. Pues guaho, ti problema para bai hu suppota i mañeluta guine sa huli'e lokue na puru este bandan hinemlo para i taotao-ta giya Saipan. Si Yu'us ma'ase, Mr. President.*

The Chair recognized Senator Cing.

Senator Cing: *Yahu ha na bai hu enfortma si Senator Maratita na an man gagaogao yo huna seguguru na etyi hu nisisita hu gagaogao. Thank you.*

The Chair recognized Senator Guerrero.

Senator Guerrero: Mr. President, originally, earlier last year *anai masatmitte gi House man manggaogao, if I recall, si Congressman Pangelinan salape pot este na issue. Personally, humalom yu' ya husangani na para uma increase to half a million ya huna fonhayan est. Lao apparently mapuno etyi na amount. Pa'go ma bira siha tatte ya \$700,000. Estegue, Mr. President, iyok-ku concern i komo at that time mohon ya man machogue, esta este sinaiba. Lao I did what I could para baihu increase etyo half a million ya etyi gue etyo half a million ni humalom pot este. I otro na issue nisisita para tafan consistent a little bit sa anai ta discuss este originally, most of the discussion I para u mana available salape sa para ufan ma relocate para uma aksaye ñuebo na homestead. Enao gue ta discuss, etyi gue na kumekues yo'.*

Floor Leader Reyes: Point of clarification, Mr. President. I have clarified the intention of the bill. *Para uma fatinas sampling at a later time. Para uma fatinas environmental sampling and consultation on the homestead area so this is on the homestead area.*

President Manglona declared the Senate recess at 1:55 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 2:05 p.m.

President Manglona: We're back to our session.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, I have the floor amendment and copies have been distributed to the members. On page 2, strike out the word "interest" and insert "income".

President Manglona: I believe all the members have copies. Basically, that is taking the money from MPLT.

The Chair recognized Senator Dela Cruz.

Senator Dela Cruz: Mr. President, I have an oral amendment to this bill.

President Manglona: Let us discuss first the amendment offered by Floor Leader Reyes. Is there any discussion on the amendment?

Several members voiced "ready", and the motion to adopt the floor amendment, as offered by Floor Leader Reyes, was carried by voice vote.

President Manglona: The floor amendment offered by Floor Leader Reyes passes the Senate.

Senator Dela Cruz: On the appropriation, section 4, I want to include also \$300,000 for the First Senatorial District of Rota, and \$300,000 for the Senatorial District of Tinian for homestead development.

Vice President Villagomez voiced, "second".

President Manglona: Is there any discussion?

Several members voiced, "ready".

President Manglona: I believe that we can trust the Legal Counsel to incorporate the oral amendment. The intent is to include \$300,000 for the First Senatorial District and \$300,000 for the Second Senatorial District for homestead development.

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

President Manglona: Is there any other 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	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. 12-378, HD2, as amended (SD2), passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-317, SENATE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PLACE A MORATORIUM ON THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAW 11-69 TO PERMIT A THOROUGH ASSESSMENT OF ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE COMMONWEALTH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

President Manglona: This bill is on the three-year limitation. 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	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	No
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Eight (8) members voted yes and one (1) no.

President Manglona: By a vote of eight (8) yes and one (1) no, House Bill No. 12-317, Senate Substitute One, passes the Senate.

HOUSE BILL NO. 12-46, SENATE SUBSTITUTE 1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL SECTION 214 AND 509 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 94-3 IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A NON-PARTISAN AND INDEPENDENT CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Floor Leader Reyes: On civil service, we have this on the Calendar, and I have discussed this with the Chairman of HEW and requested that -- may I ask the Chairman to make the motion, Mr. President.

Senator Atalig: Mr. President, I would like to move for an override of House Bill No. 12-46, SS1.

Several members voiced, "second".

President Manglona: It has been moved and seconded.

Senator Cing: Before I join my colleagues on the override, Mr. President, I would like first to know what was the reason of the Governor to veto this bill.

President Manglona declared the Senate recess at 2:07 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 2:08 p.m.

President Manglona: We're back to our session. We were discussing a motion to override House Bill No. 12-46, SS1. Is there any further discussion?

Senator Dela Cruz 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	No
Senator Ramon S. Guerrero	No
Senator Edward U. Maratita	Yes
Senator Pete P. Reyes	Abstained

Vice President Villagomez: *Kada malofan i E.O. para uma repeal, todo tiempo hu suppopota. Guaha iyok-ko reservation ni esta sa ilelek-ña i Gobietno na gumai problema yanggin ma override sa ti hana' klaru i Executive Order. Lao anai manasuha ham gi iyon-mame Leadership anai hu kokontra E.O., parehu ha ta'lo bai hu bota "yes".*

Senator Thomas P. Villagomez	Yes
President Paul A. Manglona	Yes

Six (6) voted yes two (2) voted no and one abstention.

President Manglona: By a vote of six (6) yes, two (2) no, and one (1) abstention, House Bill No. 12-46, SS1, has been overridden by the Senate.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, just a clarification on that. How many votes does it take to do an override?

President Manglona: Two-thirds.

Floor Leader Reyes: Mr. President, I move to adjourn subject to your call.

The motion to adjourn was seconded and was carried by voice vote.

President Manglona declared the Senate adjourned subject to the call of the Chair at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ramona I. Kapileo
Senate Journal Clerk

Adopted: Jan. 11, 2002