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THE SENATE TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE



SENATE JOURNAL

FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION – 2025

SJ 24-09

1st Day

Thursday, July 31, 2025

In compliance with the Open Government Act, Acting Senate President, Karl R. King-Nabors, issued a session call on July 28, 2025 that the Senate of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will convene this open and public session. The notice, the official session call, and the session agenda was filed in the Office of the Senate Clerk; released to the media; and posted at the Entrance Halls of the Office of the Governor, the Senate and the House of Representatives, posted on the Commonwealth Legislature's website at www.cnmileg.net

The Honorable Acting President of the Senate, Karl R. King-Nabors presided.

Acting President Karl R. King-Nabors: Good afternoon everybody. I hereby call this First Day, Fifth Special Session to order. Today is July 31st, 2025, Thursday, the time is 3:05 P.M. in the afternoon. Here at the Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. It's my honor to welcome all of you this afternoon. And before we proceed, I respectfully ask that all mobile devices be placed on silent mode and for the viewing public in today's session will be viewed on Cable TV, channel 23, Senate YouTube channel, the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature Facebook page. And with that I'd like to ask for a moment of silence prayer.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

And with that, I'd like to recognize a clerk to please call the roll.

ROLL CALL

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Presente</i>
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Present
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Present
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Here
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Gaige (Here)</i>
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors	Here
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Present

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members are present and one (1) member absent.

Acting President Karl R. King-Nabors: With seven members present and one absent. We have the requisite number to continue with today's session. Please let the record reflect that Senator Magofna is hereby excused from today's session. Before we proceed any further, I'd like to recognize our LB staff and some of the members of our government here with us today in the session. Today with us, our Senate Clerk, Dolores Bermudes, our Legal Counsel, Joe Bermudes, our IT Assistant, Delbert Camacho, our Senate Journal Clerk Chanele Borja, our Senior Legislative Assistant, Jolyn Duenas-Tagabuel, our Fiscal Analyst, Mr. Dave Demapan, and our Youth Congress Coordinator, Mr. LJ Castro. Also, with us in the chamber is Lieutenant Governor Mendiola. And sitting with us also is the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan Mr. Edwin P. Aldan. Thank you, guys, for your presence. Now onto the next order of business. The election of new officers is necessary due to the untimely passing of our late Honorable Governor Arnold I. Palacios and the constitutionally mandated ascension of then Senate President Dennis C. Mendiola to the Office of Lieutenant Governor on July 25th, 2025. Senator Mendiola was sworn in as our Lieutenant Governor. Accordingly, we are in receipt of his formal resignation from the Senate, which we will enter entertain in today's session. It is therefore the duty of this legislative body to reorganize the officers of the Senate and to move forward the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature for the Senate. And at this time, we are going on to the election for President. The floor is now open for the election of President of Senate to serve for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. I recognize Senator Manny Castro.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Senator Manny G.T. Castro: Thank you, Mr. Acting President. I am honored and privileged to nominate Senator Karl Rosario King-Nabors from the Second Senatorial District to serve as President of the Senate for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. So moved Mr. Acting President.

Senator Ronnie M. Calvo: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: So, there has been a motion on the floor nominating myself, Karl Rosario King-Nabors to serve as President for the Senate, and it has been seconded. Any other nominations? I recognize Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. Acting President. At this time, I move to close nomination.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There's been a motion to close nomination and has been seconded. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All members voiced, "aye".

The ayes have it. The motion is now closed. Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With seven members voting yes and affirmative. The motion carries. And it is my distinct honor and privilege to serve as President for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth CNMI Legislature. Thank you, members. Next on the item of agenda election of Vice President. The floor is now open and I recognize Senator Jude Hofschneider.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Thank you Mr. President, and before I make the appropriate motion, I wish to congratulate you on your presidency. At this time, I wish to make a motion to nominate Senator Corina Magofna to serve as the Vice President of the Twenty-Fourth Senate for the remainder of this Legislature. So move.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There has been a motion on the floor nominating Senator Corina Lorraine Magofna to serve as the Vice President of the Senate and has been seconded. Any other nominations recognize the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. At this time, I move to close nomination.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There has been a motion for the closure of the nomination and has been seconded. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All members voiced, "aye".

Ayes have it. The motion is now closed. Back to the main motion. I recognize the Clerk for the roll call.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting yes, Senator Corina Magofna is hereby the Vice President for the Senate for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. Onto the election of Floor Leader, I now recognize Senator Francisco Q. Cruz.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Thank you, Mr. President. It's an honor to nominate Senator Donald Manalang Manglona from the island of Rota to be our Floor Leader for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth Legislature. So move.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There has been a motion for the nomination of Senator Donald Manglona to be the Floor Leader for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth CNMI Senate Legislature and has been seconded. Any other nominations? And with that, I recognize Senator Calvo.

Senator Ronnie M. Calvo: Thank you, Mr. President. I move to close the nomination.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There's been a motion to close the nomination and it has been seconded. All in favor say aye. All opposed, say nay.

All members voiced, "aye".

Ayes have it. Nominations are hereby closed. Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting yes, Senator Donald Manglona is hereby Floor Leader for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth Commonwealth Legislature and congratulations, Floor Leader. Moving on to the Legislative Secretary. I would like to open nominations for Secretary of the Senate and I now recognize Senator Calvo.

Senator Ronnie M. Calvo: Thank you, Mr. President. I am honored and privileged to nominate Senator Francisco Cruz from the Second Senatorial District to serve as the Legislative Secretary of the Senate for the remainder of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. So moved Mr. President. Thank you.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There has been a motion to nominate Senator Francisco Q. Cruz to serve as Legislative Secretary of the Senate and has been seconded. Any other nominations? Recognize Senator Hofschneider.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Thank you, Mr. President. I move to close nomination on the nomination of Legislative Secretary.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There's been a motion to close and has been seconded. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All members voiced, "aye".

The ayes have it. The nominations are hereby closed. I recognize the clerk for the roll call.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting in the affirmative. The motion carries. Congratulations, Senator Cruz. You are now the Legislative Secretary for the Senate. I want to just take this moment and congratulate all the members of the all the new elected officers for the Senate. And with that, I would now like to recognize the Floor Leader for the proper motion to include in today's agenda communications from the House.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. At this time, I move to suspend pertinent rules to accept communications and to place House Joint Resolution 24-4, 24-5 and 24-6 on today's calendar for action. Do I hear a second?

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There's been a motion to suspend pertinent rules for the acceptance of communications that didn't make the call of the agenda and has been seconded. In discussion there being none. I recognize the clerk to kindly call the roll.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting yes, the communications the rules are hereby suspended, and the communications are placed on the calendars for action respectively. Our next item of the agenda, public comments. This is a portion of our agenda where we allow the public to provide any public comments they would like pertaining to today's agenda and the floor is now open. Please state your name and who you are representing. Welcome back, Lieutenant Governor.

Lieutenant Governor Dennis C. Mendiola: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity. First and foremost, my name is Dennis Mendiola. I'm here on my personal capacity to speak on the reorganization of the leadership here. Given the history of what we started on the 24th, I am, I hope that this leadership group, I'm actually confident that this leadership group will continue to push some of the initiatives that we started to help the administration try and steer the economy in the right direction. Of course, unfortunately the passing of our late governor God rest his soul. We like to try and push for some of the ideas and the initiative that he has brought to the Twenty-Fourth Legislature. Given the positions that we've stood it's going to be quite contradicting, but I think that it's important that this legislature now work with the administration to try to try and steer this legislature in the right direction the Commonwealth and the administration. I want to just go ahead and close by saying congratulations gentlemen. The newly elected President and the Vice President of course not here. Congratulations on the new role and I wish you guys well. Thank you for having me. Thank you for allowing me this time.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you Lieutenant Governor. Floor is still open for public comments. There being none. I'm going to go ahead and officially close public comments on to Item C of the agenda.

READING AND APPROVING OF THE JOURNAL
NONE

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There are none. Item D, I recognize the clerk.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

Senate Clerk: Mr. President, we have one on our agenda, 24-57 statement of the passing of the Honorable Arnold I. Palacios.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you Clerk. And with that any discussion from the members? I recognize Senator Manny Castro.

Senator Manny G.T. Castro: Thank you, Mr. President. A few days before the passing of governor Palacio rep Diego Camacho and I met with him given a lot of the challenges that we're facing when making any decision, we always try to, focus on the signal rather than the noise. So, signal versus noise. In essence, the signal is the information you're trying to identify or focus on while noise is distracting or irrelevant. Information that obscures the signal. The signal. I also wanted to thank now Lieutenant Governor Dennis Mendiola for also for his leadership and subscribing to this type of philosophy on focusing on the signal rather than the noise. Sitting down with Governor Palacios we were able to really hear a lot of the solutions that he had, and some of

those solutions are going to be, we are going to be seeing that soon. We have really serious investors coming in. One thing Governor Palacios always said was, focus on what we can control rather than the things that we can't. President Trump with his policies regarding the tariffs provided a lot of opportunity to focus on policies that can strengthen our economy. By going back to some of the industries that helped improve our GDP way back when. So, with that, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of Governor Arnold I Palacios, and to the people of the CNMI. Governor Palacios was a true leader, not in words, but in action. Grounded, courageous, and focused. He worked tirelessly to create real change for our community. He never sought applause or fame. He simply put the needs of our people first. Governor Palacio showed us what true leadership is, serving with integrity, acting with purpose, and speaking the truth even when it's hard. Let us honor his memory by carrying forward his example. Serve with integrity, lead with vision, speak with truth even when it's inconvenient. Rest in peace. Governor, your work lives on. Thank you, Mr. President.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you, Senator Castro, for those words, floor is still open. Any members. I just want to take this opportunity again to echo the sentiments of Senator Castro and extend my sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Arnold I and his family. He spent so many years in government and has done so much regardless of, again, our political affiliations or how we have. Individually seeing the path forward his impact will resonate and his memory will always remain with us if there are no other members to comment, recognize Senator Hofschneider.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Thank you, Mr. President. And I apologize that normally the Presiding Officer takes the last dip, but I too would like to first extend my art field condolences and, sympathy to First Lady Wella and the children and their families, and the entire family for the untimely and the passing of Governor Palacios. I did not have a chance to talk to him most recent, but just through the years of serving with them both House of the Legislature, him being in the House and me being in the Senate I have seen the consistency and the passion and the dedication that he possessed and he showed throughout his years. I would like to echo some of the President's statement as well as, senator Manny Castro's attribution of statesmanship of the late Governor. And that resonates to the entire, the CNMI and beyond. And through his legacy, we can mimic some of that vision that he had and move forward and help move the CNMI forward in these challenging times. And I want to thank you, Mr. President for allowing a few minutes for us to share, some statement on be on behalf of the Senate and the untimely passing of the Governor. *Si Yu'us Ma'ase* and I yield back.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you, Senator Hofschneider. And with that I would like to call the short recess.

The Senate recessed at 3:24 p.m.

RECESS

The Senate reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

We now rise back and I'll recognize the Clerk.

Senate Clerk: Mr. President, we have one Governor's Message 24-63, that's going to be added to our agenda.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Okay. And with that any members have any discussion? I would like to say on behalf of the Senate that I will be formalizing a Credential Committee, to go ahead and move forward with the message from the Governor announcing a vacancy for the First Senatorial District as soon as the conclusion of this session. Moving on communications from the House. There are none. I'm sorry. Recognize the Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE

Senate Clerk: We have four on our agenda, House Communication's 24-45 to 24-48.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Discussion? Ready? Okay. On to Communications from the Senate. Recognize the Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE

Senate Clerk: Mr. President, we have 24-88 and 24-92 on our agenda.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Any discussion from the members? Recognize Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. At this time, I move to accept Senate Communication 24-92, dated July 24, 2025, Senate President Dennis C. Mendiola's resignation effective Thursday, July 24, 2025, and to declare a vacancy in the First Senatorial District. So move.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Do I hear a second?

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Discussion from the members? Ready. Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

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Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With some members voting yes and one absent. The communication is hereby accepted and affirming that there is a vacancy in the First Senatorial District for the Senate seat. Before we move on, I just would like to take this opportunity to thank the former Senate President and now Lieutenant Governor Mendiola for all the time and attention and leadership you have guide you've provided to the Senate. We only wish you the best as you move forward in your future endeavor versus as Lieutenant Governor again, thank you onto communications from the CNMI Delegate.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CNMI DELEGATE
NONE

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There are none. Unfinished Business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NONE

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There are none. Pre-filed Bills, Initiatives, Local Bills and Resolutions.

PRE-FILED BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
NONE

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There being none by the members. So I want to go to Item J. And this is to introduce Bills and Initiatives, Local Bills and Resolutions.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Any members have any unnumbered bills that did not meet the agenda's deadline? And if there are none, I'll go ahead and take this opportunity to introduce Senate Resolution 24-07; To honor the service of Chief Boatswain's Mate Richard Hofschneider upon his retirement from the United States Coast Guard and to commend his exceptional service, leadership, and dedication to serving and protecting our nation. I also would like to recognize Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. At this time, I move to place Senate Resolution No. 24-07 on today's Resolution Calendar.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There's a motion for the placement of Senate Resolution 24-07 on today's Resolution Calendar for adoption and it has been seconded. All in favor of say aye. All opposed say nay.

All members voiced, "aye".

The ayes have it. On to the next item of our agenda, which is going to be Reports of Standing Committees.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
NONE

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There are none. Reports of Special Conference Committees.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
NONE

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There are none. Resolution Calendar. I now recognize the Floor Leader.

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. At this time, I move to adopt House Joint Resolution No. 24-04 entitled; To authorize the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through its Governor, to submit to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development the Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant Application No. B-25-ST69-0001, the Home Investment Partnership Grant Application No. M-25-ST69-0203, the National Housing Trust Fund Grant Application No. F-25-ST69-0203, and the Emergency Solutions Grant Application No. E-25-DC69-0001; to receive the funds requested therein; and to assume all responsibilities that may be imposed pursuant to those grants.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There has been a motion for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 24-04 and has been seconded. Discussion? Ready. Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting yes, the Senate officially adopts House Joint Resolution 24-04. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. We have House Joint Resolution No. 24-05 entitled; To recognize and acknowledge the National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and the Guam-CNMI ESGR State Committee and their volunteer members for their exceptional service and commitment to our service men and women and to thank and appreciate our civilian employers for their utmost support to our service members by recognizing the week of August 4th through August 8th, 2025 as "Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week". I move for its adoption.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There has been a motion for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 24-5 and has been seconded. Discussions. Ready. Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting yes, the Senate hereby adopts House Joint Resolution 24-5. Recognize Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you Mr. President. We have House Joint Resolution 24-6 entitled; Commending the distinguished life and extraordinary contributions of the late Honorable Governor Arnold Indalecio Palacios to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and its people and to acknowledge his enduring legacy as a genuine statesman. I move for its adoption.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There is a motion for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 24-6 and has been seconded. And the floor is open for discussions. If no discussions, then I will recognize the Clerk. Please call the roll.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting yes, the Senate officially adopts House Joint Resolution 24-6. Recognize Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. And last on the calendar we have Senate Resolution No. 24-07; To honor the service of Chief Boatswain's Mate Richard Hofschneider upon his retirement from the United States Coast Guard and to commend his exceptional service, leadership, and dedication to serving and protecting our nation. I move for its adoption.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There's been a motion for the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 24-07 and has been seconded. Open for discussion. Floor is open. Everybody's ready. Recognize the Clerk for the roll call.

CLERK called the roll with the following results:

Senator Celina R. Babauta	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Ronnie M. Calvo	Yes
Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro	Yes
Senator Francisco Q. Cruz	Yes
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider	<i>Hunggan</i> (Yes)
Senator Corina L. Magofna	Absent – Excused
Senator Donald M. Manglona	Yes
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors (Acting President)	Yes

CLERK: Mr. President, seven (7) members voting yes and one (1) absent.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: With all seven members voting yes, Senate Resolution 24-07 is hereby adopted by the Senate. Onto Bill Calendar.

**BILL CALENDAR
NONE**

President Karl R. King-Nabors: There are none. Item Q, Petitions, Memorials and Miscellaneous Communications. The floor is now open for any member. Recognize Senator Hofschneider.

PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Thank you, Mr. President and speaking with the special session today. I Wish to express again my support and my congratulations to you on taking over the Presiding Officer of the Senate. I also like to recognize the former setting officer who joined us this afternoon, Lieutenant Governor Dennis Mendiola former Senator Vinnie, I see him. And our good Mayor from Tinian, Mayor Aldan. Thank you for joining us. It's rather overwhelming to say the least of what transpired, to get us to where we're at today. But I think we can all agree that we all have the same objective. To do right for the people and to try and steer our best and steer the CNMI forward and working together. And I am 110% confident Mr. President that you possess that ability to assist us to lead us working together with our members from the House and the administration of Apatang and Mendiola. Of course, our hardworking Congresswoman, Kimberly King-Hinds in D.C. So, it's critical. We're at a crossroad. There's a lot of moving parts that we've been tackling and I look forward to engaging and addressing those issues so that we can provide. Some comfort and direction for our people that we represent in the CNMI. So again, congratulations and let's do this. I yield back.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you. Any other members? Recognize Senator Calvo.

Senator Ronnie M. Calvo: Thank you, Senate President. And first and foremost, I would like to also congratulate you as our representative for the Senate presidency. Senator Hofschneider said, we are under challenging times on behalf of also our Rota Legislative Delegation the 24th, our Mayor and Rota Municipal Council, 20th, and also district one as well as our neighboring island, district two and district three. We'd like to once again, give our sincerest condolences and sympathy to First Lady Wella Palacios her children and families as we look forward to an honorable state funeral as we pray and in honor and remembrance of our late governor. Another congratulatory is for our Governor David Apatang, as well as our Lieutenant Governor that came into oath and we look forward to working together, and tackling like Senator Hofschneider said, moving CNMI forward without due respect. Congratulate everyone and may God bless the CNMI.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you, Senator Calvo. With that being said we're going to go ahead and move on to announcements and my apologies. I recognize Senator Cruz.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Thank you Mr. President. I would like to congratulate you for being elected President. I'm looking forward to continue working collaboratively to assist our constituents. And I would like also to congratulate all officers that are being elected today, and I

thank everyone for your board of confidence in putting me back to the Legislative Secretary. I appreciate your board of confidence and also would like to congratulate the administration Governor Apatang and Lieutenant Governor Mendiola, thank you, sir, for showing up and I know that your heart still at the Legislature, and we will continue to collaborate to assist our people of the Commonwealth. And former Floor Leader Vinnie, thank you for being here to witness the new reorganization of the officers of the Twenty-Fourth Legislature. I thank you for your presence and to the late Governor Palacios and the family, I would like also to extend our heartfelt and condolences to the family. I will for our first lady and entire family for the passing of our former Governor Palacios. And thank you everyone. The staff of the LB, thank you for holding there to assist there. The members of the Twenty-Fourth Senate, thank you. I yield back, Mr. President.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you Senator Cruz. Recognize Senator Manny Castro.

Senator Manny G.T. Castro: Thank you, Mr. President. We have a Senate President from Tinian, Lieutenant Governor from Rota, and a Governor from Saipan. Let us continue to focus on the signal and less on less of the noise. Thank you.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you Senator Castro. Recognize Senator Cruz.

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz: Thank you. I know it is better late than never to mention somebody else and also like to recognize. And thank you Mayor Aldan for coming over to the Legislature to witness the officers that have been elected and, as well as our Delegate of the Commonwealth. Thank you for being here. And we are looking forward to continue collaborating with the office to make a better Commonwealth.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: Thank you Senator Cruz. Any other members? I would just like to take a little bit of time, if I may to say thank you first and foremost to all of my colleagues and in your confidence and trust in me to fulfill the mandate of Senate presidency and to keep moving our agendas forward. I am, I'm sincerely eager to work with the administration and the House to keep progress moving. There are a lot of things before us and we really need to get to work because time is not on our side. But as it relates to today I just again, want to extend my sincere gratitude and thanks to all of you guys for the confidence. And with that onto announcements, any members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NONE

President Karl R. King-Nabors: None. Onto adjournment. I recognize the Floor Leader.

ADJOURNMENT

Floor Leader Donald M. Manglona: Thank you, Mr. President. And at this time, I move to adjourn. Adjourn today's session subject to your call.

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider: Second.

The motion has been seconded.

President Karl R. King-Nabors: good. There's been motion and has been seconded for the adjournment. Subject to the call of the chair. All in favor, say aye. All opposed say nay.

All members voiced, "aye".

This session is adjourned at 3:41 PM subject to the call. Thank you everyone.

The Senate session adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chanele C. Borja
Senate Journal Clerk