



House of Representatives

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

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HC Document Control No. 41

December 13, 2024

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedures and the authority under the NMI Constitution, the Speaker of the House of Representatives announces that the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will convene the following open and public meeting:

Meeting: House of Representatives Sixth Day, Fourth Regular Session
Date and Time: Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 10:00 AM
Location: House Chamber, Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill

Copies of this notice, the official Session Call, and the agenda have been filed in the Office of the House Clerk, released to the media, and posted at the following locations:

Administration Building Entrance Hall
House of Representatives Entrance Hall
Senate Entrance Hall
Commonwealth Legislature website (www.cnmileg.net)

Written comments on agenda items may be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before the meeting date. Oral testimony may be presented during the meeting on Wednesday, December 18, 2024.

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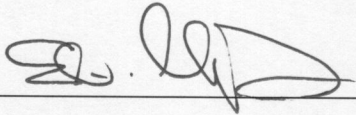
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building
P. O. BOX 500586
Saipan, MP 96950

EDMUND SABLAN VILLAGOMEZ
SPEAKER

MEMORANDUM

DATE : 10 December 2024

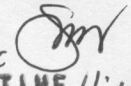
TO : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM : Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez 

SUBJECT : Call for Session, 6th Day, 4th Regular Session

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the **6th Day, 4th Regular Session for Wednesday, 18 December 2024 at 10:00 a.m.** in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President
 House Clerk
 LB Director
 SAPLR
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2024

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
6th Day, Fourth Regular Session	Wednesday, December 18, 2024	10:00 a.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Moment of Silence

1. ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. ADOPTION OF JOURNALS – (1)

Fourth Day, Fourth Regular Session Journal – October 25, 2024

4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

A. House Bills:

B. House Local Bills:

H. L. B. No. 23-70

To appropriate seventy-eight thousand dollars (\$78,000.00) from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.

Filed by: REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*)

C. House Legislative Initiatives:

5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

A. House Resolutions:

H. RES. NO. 23-28

To recognize and commend Mr. Cameron S. Nicholas for his invaluable contributions to the CNMI through dedicated services, sharing his expertise and knowledge as a Legislative Assistant to the House of Representatives for nearly a decade.

Filed by: REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, and Diego V. F. Camacho)

H. RES. NO. 23-29

To recognize the Saipan Rotary Club in promoting service and peace in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prefiled by: REP. EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ of Saipan, Precinct 3, (*for himself*)

B. *House Joint Resolutions:*

C. *House Commemorative Resolutions:*

C. RES. NO. 23-13

To Honor the Life and Legacy of Efraim Manglona Atalig.

Prefiled by: REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Vicente C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, Malcolm J. Omar, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai)

D. *House Concurrent Resolutions:*

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

GOV. COMM. 23-142: (11/19/2024) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-66, D1, (*To appropriate Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.*). Became **Tinian Local Law 23-18** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-143: (11/19/2024) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-65, (*To amend Tinian Local Law 23-09; and for other purposes.*). Became **Tinian Local Law 23-19** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-144: (12/11/2024) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-69, D1, (*To appropriate \$21,259.00 for the personnel of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission and the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan pursuant to 10 CMC § 2581 and 1 CMC § 1405.*). Became **Tinian Local Law 23-20** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-145: (12/11/2024) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-67, S1, (*To re-appropriate funds under Saipan Local Law 20-24 and Saipan Local Law 20-26; and for other purposes.*). Became **Saipan Local Law 23-22** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 23-146: (12/11/2024) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-68, (*To appropriate \$205,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to 10 CMC § 3841; and for other purposes.*). Became **Saipan Local Law 23-23** [*For info*]

7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

SEN. COMM. 23-131: (11/20/2024) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 23-54**, entitled, "*To regulate afok or bweesch (lime) under the Pure Food and Drug Control Act; and for other purposes.*", which was passed by the Senate on November 19, 2024. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 23-132: (11/20/2024) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 23-67, SS1**, entitled, *“To allow the Health Care Professions Licensing Board to promulgate regulations for the licensing of physicians licensed to practice in a foreign country; and for other purposes.”*, which was passed by the Senate on November 19, 2024. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 23-133: (11/20/2024) Transmitting for House action **S. J. R. NO. 23-10**, entitled, *“To approve three additional full-time equivalent (FTE) employees for the Office of the Mayor for the Municipality of Rota to efficiently and effectively provide the necessary daily services to the community.”*, which was adopted by the November 19, 2024. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 23-134: (11/20/2024) Returning H. B. No. 23-26, entitled, “To amend 4 CMC 1402 (g)(1) to allocate 10 percent of the excise tax to the Solid Waste Management Revolving Fund.”, which was passed by the Senate with amendments on November 19, 2024, in the form of **H. B. No. 23-26, SD1** to read: *“To amend 4 CMC § 1402 (g)(1) to allocate 10 percent of the excise tax to the Solid Waste Management Revolving Fund and to allocate a portion of the excise tax to the First and Second Senatorial districts; and for other purposes.”*. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

SEN. COMM. 23-135: (11/21/2024) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 23-30, entitled, *“To honor the distinguished life of the late Amparo Deleon Guerrero Tenorio and to recognize her honorable service to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and its people.”*. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 23-136: (11/21/2024) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 23-31, entitled, *“Honoring the distinguished life of the late Manuel Atalig Sablan and to acknowledge his steadfast contributions to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and its people.”*. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 23-137: (11/21/2024) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 23-33, entitled, *“To acknowledge Maria Borja Camacho Santos for her principled contributions to the community of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”*. [*For info*]

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 23-162: (11/18/2024) From Floor Leader Propst, informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal business from November 22, 2024—November 26, 2024, and request to be excused from any legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings and official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-163: (11/25/2024) Representative Thomas John DLC. Manglona informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal leave from November 28, 2024 to December 2, 2024, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings, and official functions during this period. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-164: (12/2/2024) From Representative Joseph A. Flores informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal business from December 3, 2024 to December 16, 2024, and request to be excused from all scheduled meetings or sessions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-165: (12/2/2024) From Representative Manny G.T. Castro informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth from December 2, 2024 to December 6, 2024 to attend the NCEL and Blue Planet Workshop, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, committee meetings, and other official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-166: (12/3/2024) From Vice Speaker Joel Camacho informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from December 4, 2024 to December 6, 2024, and request to be excused from sessions, and meetings, during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-167: (12/4/2024) From Representative Marissa R. Flores informing the Speaker that she will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from December 4, 2024 to December 6, 2024, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, committee meetings, and official functions during her absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-168: (12/4/2024) From Representative Angelo A. Camacho informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from December 5, 2024—December 6, 2024, and request to be excused from any legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, and committee meetings during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-169: (12/4/2024) Representative Malcolm J. Omar informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from December 4, 2024 to December 6, 2024, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings, and official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-170: (12/10/2024) From Representative Julie M.A. Ogo informing the Speaker that she will be on personal leave beginning December 13, 2024 to December 20, 2024 and request to be excused from legislative sessions, committee meetings, and official functions during her absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 23-171: (12/10/2024) From the Speaker informing all Members that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal business from December 11, 2024 to December 15, 2024. During his absence, he designates Vice Speaker Joel C. Camacho as Acting Speaker. [*For info*]

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH – (None)

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 23-31: (11/19/2024) From the Department of Public Lands (DPL) re: Responding to the status of outstanding land compensation claims submitted by Mr. Nick Sablan to DPL on 11/11/2024. [*For info*]

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 23-104: (submitted 11/19/2024) Indigenous Affairs Office submitting FY 2024 Citizen-Centric Report. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 23-105: (12/10/2024) Transmitting certified copies of the following: RLD Resolution No. 23-05; and RLD Commemorative Resolution No. 23-05, which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on December 6, 2024. [*For info*]

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (2)

S. C. R. No. 23-94: Reporting on H. B. No. 23-55, entitled: “To advance indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian language education in the CNMI.” *Your House Committee on Education recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 23-55, HD1.*

S. C. R. No. 23-95: Reporting on H. B. No. 23-93, entitled: “To amend Title 4, Division 1, by adding a new Chapter 13 and repealing Chapter 5, § 1502, Hotel Occupancy Tax, and for other purposes.” *Your House Committee on Ways and Means recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 23-93, HD1.*

13. REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES – (None)

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (None)

15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Resolution	Subject	Action

16. BILL CALENDAR

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action
H. B. No. 23-113	A Bill for an Act to provide greater authority to government transit buses owned and operated by the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA); and for other purposes. <i>[Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 6/25/2024]</i>	
S. B. No. 23-17	A Bill for an Act to amend the provisions pertaining to village and agricultural homesteads in Rota, Tinian and Saipan, and to specifically prohibit the Department of Public Lands from revoking a village or agricultural homestead permit after it is approved and issued because the applicant met all the requirements, including that the applicant has no interest in land at the time the permit was approved; and for other purposes. <i>[See SEN. COMM. 23-16]</i> <i>[No public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 5/10/2023]</i>	

17. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(ADJOURNMENT)

APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS

FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY: 1st Legislative appearance of a local bill is on the day it is introduced.

SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY:

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:

Appearance of measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on November 22, 2024:

H. B. NO. 23-122: To amend provisions in Title 6, Chapter 3, Sexual Offenses, Article 1. General Provisions, relating to sexual abuse/assault of minors. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*, Representatives Angelo A. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on November 22, 2024; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

H. L. B. NO. 23-68: To appropriate \$205,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to 10 CMC §3847; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao) on November 22, 2024.

H. L. B. NO. 23-69: To appropriate \$21,259.00 for the personnel of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission pursuant to 10 CMC §2581 and 1 CMC §1405. Introduced by REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on November 22, 2024.

H. J. R. NO. 23-5: To formally recognize coral reefs as critical natural infrastructure in the CNMI and to acknowledge the invaluable role coral reefs play in protecting our community from flooding and erosion, contributing to tourism and food production, and preserving indigenous knowledge and practices. Introduced by REP. ANGELO A. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 5 and REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for themselves*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Diego V. F. Camacho, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul *Vincent R.S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcolm J. Omar, John Paul P. Sablan, Patrick H. San Nicolas, and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai*) on November 11, 2024; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.