



NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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HC Document Control No. 3

3/7/2025

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-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will convene the following open and public meeting:

Meeting: House of Representatives Third Day, First Regular Session
Date and Time: Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 10:00 AM
Location: House Chamber, Vice Speaker 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 Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

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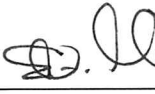
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building
P. O. BOX 500586
Saipan, MP 96950

EDMUND SABLAN VILLAGOMEZ
SPEAKER

MEMORANDUM

DATE : 05 March 2025
TO : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS
FROM : Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez 
SUBJECT : Call for Session, 3rd Day, 1st Regular Session

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the **3rd Day, 1st Regular Session for Tuesday, 11 March 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President
House Clerk
Acting LB Director
SAPLR
Media

HOUSE CLERK'S OFFICE
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION 2025

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
3rd Day, First Regular Session	Tuesday, March 11, 2025	10:00 a.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Moment of Silence

- ROLL CALL**
- PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- ADOPTION OF JOURNALS** – (None)
- INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

A. House Bills:

H. B. No. 24-7

To ensure that the expenditure authority designated in the Annual Appropriation Act retains authority over all funds appropriated to it.

Filed by: **REP. JOSEPH A. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

H. B. No. 24-8

To amend 1 CMC § 2803 to ensure that public land revenues are managed and invested by the Marianas Public Land Trust in accordance with Article XI, Section 6 of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Filed by: **REP. MARISSA R. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

H. B. No. 24-9

To amend 4 CMC § 1803 by reallocating a portion of the Hotel Occupancy Tax received by the Marianas Visitors Authority to the Division of Parks and Recreation to support beautification efforts.

Filed by: **REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself, Representatives Diego V. F. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, and Edmund S. Villagomez*)

H. B. No. 24-10

To establish a change of name legal procedure in the CNMI.

Filed by: **REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself, Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

H. B. No. 24-11

To provide greater authority to government transit buses owned and operated by the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA); to establish traffic safety measures, enhance public engagement, ensure fiscal responsibility, and comply with existing CNMI laws and federal standards; and for other purposes.

Prefiled by: REP. VINCENT R. ALDAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

H. B. No. 24-12

To promote economic recovery and provide relief to CNMI taxpayers by waiving penalties and interest on unpaid taxes due to financial and socioeconomic hardships; and for other purposes.

Prefiled by: REP. DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

H. B. No. 24-13

To amend the fee structure for the Office of the Registrar of Corporations under the Department of Commerce and to remove daily penalty fees.

Prefiled by: REP. THOMAS J. DLC. MANGLONA of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*)

B. House Local Bills:

H. L. B. NO. 24-2

To appropriate Eighty Four Thousand Dollars (\$84,000.00) from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.

Prefiled 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. 24-5

To Congratulate and Honor all the women in the Commonwealth as we celebrate their contributions and achievements during the month of March 2025 proclaimed as CNMI Women's Month and March 8th as International Women's Day.

Prefiled by: REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself, Representatives Angelo A. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas John DLC Manglona, and Edmund S. Villagomez*)

B. House Joint Resolutions:

H. J. R. No. 24-1

To urgently request for the immediate inclusion of the Republic of the Philippines in the nonimmigrant Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program administered by the United States Department of Homeland Security.

Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, Elias J.M. Rangamar, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

C. House Commemorative Resolutions:

D. House Concurrent Resolutions:

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

GOV. COMM. 24-11: (2/12/2025) Certifying and granting approval for Ms. Molly Kay Dennert, who is employed as an Assistant Public Defender at the Office of the Public Defender, to receive an annual salary of \$70,000. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-12: (2/14/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 24-6, HD1 (*To amend the Appropriations and Budget Authority Act of Fiscal Year 2025, Public Law 23-26, to appropriate the balance of funds allocated for the Minimum Annual Payment to the Settlement Fund and to return government employees subject to austerity to 100% work hours; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 24-01** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-13: (2/28/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 24-1, D1, (*To appropriate \$11,877.00 for the personnel and operations of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission pursuant to 10 CMC § 2581 and 1 CMC § 1405.*). Became **Tinian Local Law 24-1** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-14: (3/4/2025) Informing Representative Vincent R. Aldan, of his appointment to serve as the House of Representatives’ representative on the State Workforce Development Board (SWD). [*For info-U.S. P.L. 11-128*]

7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

SEN. COMM. 24-3: (2/14/2025) Returning H. B. No. 24-6, HD1, entitled, “*To amend the Appropriations and Budget Authority Act of Fiscal Year 2025, Public Law 23-26, to appropriate the balance of funds allocated for the Minimum Annual Payment to the Settlement Fund and to return government employees subject to austerity to 100% work hours; and for other purposes.*”, which was passed by the Senate without amendments on February 14, 2025. [*For info-Now P.L. 24-1*]

SEN. COMM. 24-4: (2/14/2025) Returning H. C. R. NO. 24-1, entitled, “*To approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC, Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2025, beginning October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025.*”, which was passed by the Senate without amendments on February 14, 2025. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-5: (2/14/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. J. R. NO. 24-01**, entitled, *“Supporting the Commonwealth Ports Authority’s request for exemption from Federal Limitations on Scheduled Chinese Air Service to the CNMI and for the Reinstatement of Annex VI under the US Department of State’s “US-China Air Transport Agreement of 2007.”*, which was adopted by the Senate on February 14, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-6: (3/3/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. J. R. NO. 24-02**, entitled, *“To call for a Joint Session of the Legislature to receive the Governor’s State of the Commonwealth Address.”*, which was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-7: (3/3/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 24-15, SD1**, entitled, *“To amend 4 CMC § 4266 to add a filing number to incorporation filings; to amend 4 CMC § 4269 to create an internet portal for public search of corporate existence by filing number; and for other purposes.”*, which was passed by the Senate on February 28, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-8: (3/3/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 24-16, SD1**, entitled, *“To promote trade and investment economic development and diversification in the CNMI; to encourage foreign and domestic investments through incentives and streamlined processes, as well as to promote the CNMI as a trade and investment hub; and for other purposes.”*, which was passed by the Senate on February 28, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-9: (3/3/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 24-17, SD1**, entitled, *“To globally amend Divisions 1 and 5 of Title 4 to rename “Commonwealth Free Trade Zone Authority” to “Commonwealth Economic Incentive District Authority”; and for other purposes.”*, which was passed by the Senate on February 28, 2025. [*For action*]

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 24-15: (2/11/2025) From Representative Elias M. Rangamar informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth for personal matters from February 12, 2025, to February 15, 2025, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, committee meetings, or official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-16: (2/14/2025) From Representative Denita K. Yangetmai informing the Speaker that she will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from February 23, 2025, to March 1, 2025, and requests to be excused from all official functions during her absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-17: (2/18/2025) From Representative Joseph A. Flores informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal matters from February 19, 2025, to February 24, 2025, and requests to be excused from all scheduled meetings or sessions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-18: (2/19/2025) From the Speaker informing all Members that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from February 23 to March 1, 2025, and in his absence, designates Vice Speaker Diego V.F. Camacho as Acting Speaker. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-19: (2/20/2025) From Representative Joel C. Camacho informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal matters from February 24, 2025, to March 3, 2025, and requests to be excused from all sessions and meetings during this period. In his absence, he designates Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao to serve as Acting Chair of the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-20: (3/6/2025) From Representative Angelo A. Camacho informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from March 7, 2025, to March 19, 2025, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, committee meetings, and other official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-21: (3/6/2025) Representative Malcolm J. Omar informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from March 7, 2025, to March 14, 2025, and requests to be excused from any legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings, and official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

JUD. BR. COMM. 24-1: (3/5/2025) From NMI Judiciary re: *Judiciary FY 2026 Budget Request*. [*For info*]

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-5: (2/14/2025) From the DPL (Department of Public Lands) re: *DPL's Proposed Budget for FY 2026*. [*For info*]

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-6: (2/25/2025) From the DPL (Department of Public Lands) re: *Amendment to Suwaso Corporation dba Coral Ocean Resort's New Lease (specifically on Article 28(a))*. [*For consideration*]

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 24-10: (2/11/2025) From the Chairperson of the 18th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council informing the House that it is duly organized and formally conveys the following officers:

- **Chair:** Marian DLG. Tudela
- **Vice Chair:** Antonia M. Tudela
- **Secretary:** Carmen C. Pangelinan

MISC. COMM. 24-11: (2/19/2025) From the Legislative Bureau & CNMI Youth Congress submitting *FY 2026 Budget Proposal to the Office of Management and Budget*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-12: (2/21/2025) Correspondence from U.S. Delegate Kimberlyn King-Hinds urging the CNMI Legislature to convene public discussions and consider potential Covenant amendments on birth tourism. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-13: (2/27/2025) From the Mayor of the Northern Islands re: *Submission of the Office of the Mayor of the Northern Islands budget request for FY 2026*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-14: (2/27/2025) From the Chairperson of the NMI Museum Board of Governors re: *Submission of the NMI Museum budget request for FY 2026*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-15: (2/28/2025) Request from the Commonwealth Casino Commission (CCC) for the Department of Finance to *Reconsider Issuance of Board Compensation Authorized Under Public Law 24-01*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-16: (2/28/2025) From the Chairperson of the 18th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council re: *Submission of the 18th SNIMC budget for FY 2026*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-17: (3/1/2025) From the CEO, Commonwealth HealthCare Corporation (CHCC) informing the Governor and the 24th NMCL re: *2025 Health Network Program Analysis*. [*For info-consideration*]

MISC. COMM. 24-18: (3/4/2025) Certification of election results for the 20th CNMI Youth Congress. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-19: (3/4/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of SNILD Resolution No. 24-1, entitled, “*To adopt the Interim Rules of Procedure of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.*”, which was adopted by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation on January 17, 2025. [*For info*]

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (None)

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

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (None)

15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Resolution	Subject	Action
H. RES. NO. 24-2	A House Resolution to amend the House of Representatives Rules of Procedure that were appended to House Resolution 24-1.	

16. BILL CALENDAR

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action

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 February 14, 2025:

H. B. NO. 24-1: To amend provisions in Title 6, Chapter 3, Sexual Offenses, Article 1. General Provisions, relating to sexual abuse/assault of minors. Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on February 14, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 24-2: To establish a process for the delivery of a State of the Commonwealth Address to the Legislature by the Governor. Prefiled by: REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representative Joel C. Camacho, and Marissa R. Flores) on February 14, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 24-3: To eliminate the 10% distribution to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, and redistribute those funds equally between the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Public Works to enhance their operational capacities; and for other purposes. Prefiled by: REP. VINCENT S. ALDAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on February 14, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications.

H. B. NO. 24-4: To amend the Investment Incentive Act of 2000 by refining eligibility criteria for Qualifying Certificates, strengthening procedural safeguards, mandating detailed reporting on investments and performance, and enhancing oversight mechanisms. Prefiled by: REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on February 14, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Commerce.

H. B. NO. 24-5: To establish provisions for jaywalking; and for other purposes. Prefiled by: REP. JOSEPH A. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on February 14, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 24-6: To amend the Appropriations and Budget Authority Act of Fiscal Year 2025, Public Law 23-26, to appropriate the balance of funds allocated for the Minimum Annual Payment to the Settlement Fund and to return government employees subject to austerity to 100% work hours; and for other purposes. Prefiled by: REP. BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Roman C. Benavente, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Joseph A. Flores, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul) on February 14, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar. [*Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 2/14/2025*]

H. L. B. NO. 24-1: To appropriate \$11,877.00 for the operations of the Mayor Tinian and Aguiguan pursuant to 10 CMC § 2581 and 1 CMC § 1405. Prefiled by: REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on February 14, 2025.

H. RES. NO. 24-2: To amend the House of Representatives Rules of Procedure that were appended to House Resolution 24-1. Prefiled by the Ad Hoc Committee on Rules: Representatives Marissa R. Flores, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, and Diego V.F. Camacho on February 14, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.

H. RES. NO. 24-3: Expressing profound gratitude to Paul Atalig Manglona, his wife, Lydia Manibusan Manglona, and their children, Deanna, Paul Jr., Denn, Pauline, Marla, and Amelia, for unselfishly sharing their husband and father with the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and extending best wishes to him and his family on the occasion of his retirement. Prefiled by: REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R.S. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on February 14, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.

H. RES. NO. 24-4: Objecting to the acquittal of Shayne Blanco Villanueva on charges of legislative contempt; urging the CNMI Attorney General and the U.S. Attorney to investigate and prosecute any and all CNMI and federal crimes related to the BOOST program; condemning the demonstrated bias against CNMI Assistant Attorney General James Kingman; denouncing the denial of due process with respect to the Commonwealth's ability to effectively prosecute its case; and urging the Judiciary and the CNMI Bar Association to review and investigate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo's in-court comments made in Criminal Case No. 24-0028, as said comments undermine public confidence in the judiciary's impartiality and reflect a personal bias that was unbecoming of a member of the CNMI Judiciary. Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Joel C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, Elias J.M. Rangamar, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on February 14, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.

C. RES. NO. 24-1: To recognize and commend Dr. David S. Grauman and Dr. Elizabeth A. Kohnen for their exemplary service and selfless dedication to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Prefiled by: REP. ROY C. A. ADA of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond

U. Palacios, and Elias J.M. Rangamar, *Vincent R.S. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Roman C. Benavente, Julie M. A. Ogo, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul*) on February 14, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.

H. C. R. No. 24-1: To approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC, Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2025, beginning October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025. Introduced by REP. BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself, Representatives Joel C. Camacho, Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R.S. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DiC. Manglona, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul*) on February 14, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.