NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building
Capitol Hill
P.O. Box 500586
Saipan, MP 96950
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HC Document Control No. 40

10/23/2026

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure 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 6th Day, Fourth Regular Session**
Date and Time:	**Monday, October 26, 2026, 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 Monday, October 26, 2026.

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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 : **22 October 2026**

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 Monday, 26 October 2026 at 10:00 a.m.** in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President
House Clerk
Acting LB Director
SAPLR
Media

HOUSE CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED BY
DATE 10/22/2026 TIME 1:33 PM

TELEPHONE NO.: 670 664.8971/72 FACSIMILE NO.: 670.664.8900 EMAIL: rep.evillagomez@cnmileg.net

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FOURTH REGULAR SESSION 2026

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
6TH DAY	MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026	10:00 a.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Moment of Silence

1. ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. ADOPTION OF JOURNALS – (None)

4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

A. House Bills:

H. B. NO. 24-111
To amend 1 CMC, Division 6. Elections, specifically §§6213, 6222, 6521(a), repeal and reenact 6524 and amend 6528(f); and for other purposes.
Prefiled by: **REP. ROY C. A. ADA** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

H. B. NO. 24-112
To establish the Disaster Readiness and Recovery Fund; to plan for the local share of federal disaster assistance; to require an inventory of public buildings and their insurance; to strengthen emergency sheltering plans; to require quarterly reports on federal disaster funds; and for other purposes.
Prefiled by: **REP. MARISSA R. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

B. House Local Bills:

C. House Legislative Initiatives:

5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

A. House Resolutions:

H. RES. NO. 24-32
To recognize and commend Carol Young Suh Lee, a daughter of Saipan, for her outstanding achievements in tennis, including winning a WTA 125 title and competing in the main draw of the 2026 US Open, and for bringing pride and distinction to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
Prefiled by: **REP. MARISSA R. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

***B. House Joint Resolutions**:*

***C. House Commemorative Resolutions**:*

***D. House Concurrent Resolutions**:*

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

GOV. COMM. 24-197: (9/25/2026) Informing the House that he signed into law H. B. No. 24-30, SD1, entitled, (*To appropriate funds from Accounts 1501B and 1501S to support the operational and personnel needs of the CNMI Cannabis Commission and to direct the Secretary of Finance to establish and maintain a separate sub-account within the Cannabis Tax Account for the purpose of segregating and reserving PSS's designated share, and for other purposes.*) Became **Public Law No. 24-39**. [*For Info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-198: (rec'd 10/1/2026) **Executive Order 2026-22** — Declaring a government shutdown due to the absence of an approved appropriations act for Fiscal Year 2027, suspending non-essential government operations and expenditures, and identifying essential services and employees authorized to continue operating during the shutdown. [*Signed 9/30/2026*]

GOV. COMM. 24-199: (rec'd 10/1/2026) Informing the House that he vetoed H. L. B. NO. 24-54, entitled, (*To amend 10 CMC § 12143 to lower the local gambling taxes, including online gaming.*). **[*Veto deadline: 11/30/2026*]**

GOV. COMM. 24-200: (10/5/2026) Informing the House that he signed into law and line item vetoed in parts, H. B. No. 24-108, HS1, SD1, CCS1 (*To provide a Budget Plan of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Fiscal Year 2027 and make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law No. 24-40 [*Item Veto deadline: 12/4/2026*]**

GOV. COMM. 24-201: (rec'd 9/29/2026) **Executive Order 2026-21** — Declaring a continued State of Significant Emergency for the Commonwealth to support ongoing recovery, repair, and restoration following Super Typhoons Sinlaku and Bavi, for an additional thirty days unless rescinded or further renewed. [*Signed 9/29/2026*]

GOV. COMM. 24-202: (9/29/2026) Certifying and approving, pursuant to 1 CMC § 8248(b), an annual salary of $70,000.00 for Maria Guillamont, Assistant Attorney General, exceeding the statutory salary cap of $65,175.00. [*For Info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-203: (rec'd 9/29/2026) From Governor David M. Apatang requesting enactment of legislation granting and confirming 100% reprogramming authority for FY 2027 through FY 2031 pursuant to the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) $15 million Line of Credit Agreement. [*For consideration*]

GOV. COMM. 24-204: (rec'd 10/6/2026) **Executive Order 2026-22.1** - Amending Executive Order 2026-22 by adding designated essential services and personnel to the FY 2027 government shutdown exemptions. [*Signed 10/5/2026; effective 10/1/2026; For Info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-205: (10/6/2026) Certifying and approving, pursuant to 1 CMC § 8248(b), an annual salary of $70,000.00 for Sabrina Elizabeth-Heal Butcher, Assistant Attorney General, exceeding the statutory salary cap of $65,175.00. [*For Info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-206: (10/15/2026) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 24-5, HD1, SS1, (*To establish provisions for jaywalking; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law No. 24-41**

GOV. COMM. 24-207: (10/20/2026) Certifying and approving, pursuant to 1 CMC § 8248(b), an annual salary of $78,000.00 for David Allen Austin, Assistant Attorney General, exceeding the statutory salary cap of $65,175.00. [*For Info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-208: (10/21/2026) Withdrawing the nomination of Mr. Bernard P. Villagomez to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, representing the Third Senatorial District. [*For Info*]

7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

SEN. COMM. 24-110: (7/3/2026) Returning H. B. No. 24-88, entitled, "To mandate that the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation undergo a comprehensive, independent, third-party utility expert audit; to require a formal Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission audit-review docket and transparent public review process; to require an enforceable corrective action plan, a ratepayer impact matrix, and a public audit implementation dashboard; to impose strict timelines and narrowly limited extensions; to require mandatory decennial audits; to establish compliance reporting and civil penalties for missed deadlines payable to the CNMI Treasury; and for other purposes.*"*, which was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on July 3, 2026, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present, in the form of ***H. B. No. 24-88, SS1*** *to read as follows:* ***"To authorize the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to borrow funds for the purchase of fuel, to recover from the devastation of Super Typhoon Sinlaku, and for the recovery and restoration efforts associated with the impending Super Typhoon Bavi that is expected to make landfall in the Northern Marianas; and for other purposes."*** [***For action on Senate amendments***]
Note: Read on July 28, 2026; August 20, 2026; September 18, 2026; September 25, 2026.

SEN. COMM. 24-138: (9/27/2026) Informing the House of the Senate's Conferees to the Conference Committee on H. B. NO. 24-108, HS1, SD1, entitled, "*To provide a Budget Plan of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Fiscal Year 2027 and make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations; and for other purposes."*. [*Chair: Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider; Member(s): Sen(s). Donald M. Manglona, and Corina L. Magofna; Alternate Member: Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz*]. [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-139: (9/30/2026) Informing the House that the Senate, in its Emergency Session, on September 30, 2026, adopted Conference Committee Report No. 24-7 on H. B. No. 24-108, HS1, SD1, CCS1, entitled, "To provide a Budget Plan of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Fiscal Year 2027 and make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations; and for other purposes.," by unanimous vote, a quorum being present. [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-140: (10/13/2026) Informing the House that the Senate, in its 2nd Day, Fourth Regular Session, on October 13, 2026, adopted Conference Committee Report No. 24-6 on H. B. No. 24-107, HD1, SD1, CCS1, entitled, "To authorize the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to obtain emergency financing for utility restoration, stabilization, and fuel procurement in response to Super Typhoons Sinlaku and Bavi and related fuel supply disruptions; and for other purposes.". [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-141: (10/13/2026) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Commemorative Resolution No. 24-11, entitled, "*To honor and commemorate the life, distinguished public service, and enduring contributions of the late Honorable Karl Tudela Reyes to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.*". [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-142: (10/13/2026) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Commemorative Resolution No. 24-12, entitled, "*To commend and congratulate Past International Director Dato' Yeow Wah Chin of Lions Clubs International and current Lions Clubs Internation Foundation (LCIF) Area Leader, for his exemplary leadership, distinguished legal career, and outstanding humanitarian service to Lions Clubs International and the global community including the CNMI.*". [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-143: (10/13/2026) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 24-20, entitled, "*Ratifying, confirming, and authorizing the filing and continued prosecution by the Senate of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature of litigation to protect its constitutional and statutory advice-and-consent authority.*". [*For Info*]

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS – (None)

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH – (None)

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-35: (10/15/2026) From Natalia M. Sablan, Acting Secretary of Finance, requesting an amendment to Public Law 24-40 to allow Finance to determine each month whether sufficient cash is available to front-load $16,177,027.52 in PSS funding for the first two quarters of FY 2027. [*For Info*]

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 24-130: (9/30/2026) From Our Common Wealth 670 requesting enactment of legislation to prohibit or deter deep-sea mining in the Marianas archipelago and restrict the use of CNMI ports and waters in support of seabed mining operations. [*For Info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-131: (10/6/2026) From the CEO, Commonwealth HealthCare Corporation (CHCC), providing formal notice of funding limitations and operational changes to the Health Network Program pursuant to Public Law 22-33, § 2838(g), effective October 1, 2026, and requesting supplemental funding and reimbursement of outstanding program expenditures. [*For Info*]

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

JNT. S. C. R. NO. 24-3: Reporting on the nomination of Bernard P. Villagomez to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, representing the Third Senatorial District. *Your House Committees on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and Transportation and Infrastructure recommend confirmation of the nomination.* [GOV. COMM. 24-178; GOV. COMM. 24-187]
[Update: The Governor withdrew the nomination of Bernard P. Villagomez by Gov. Comm. 24-208, dated October 21, 2026. Listed for information; nomination no longer pending confirmation.]

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

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (None)

15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Resolution	Subject	Action
H. J. R. NO. 24-20	A House Joint Resolution to approve the Governor's request to exempt and fill a critical and vacant personnel position within the Executive Branch, specifically for the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ), pursuant to Public Law 24-20, Section 602(a).	
H. J. R. NO. 24-21	A House Joint Resolution to approve the Governor's request to exempt and fill a critical and vacant personnel position within the Executive Branch, specifically for the CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs, pursuant to Public Law 24-20, Section 602(a).	
H. J. R. NO. 24-22	A House Joint Resolution to approve the Mayor of Saipan's request to reinstate and fill essential, vacant personnel positions within the Office of the Mayor, Municipality of Saipan, pursuant to Public Law 24-20.	

16. BILL CALENDAR

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action
H. B. NO. 24-110	A Bill for an Act To promote coordination between the Marianas Visitors Authority and the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture for the promotion of Commonwealth culture and cultural tourism; to preserve the independence of the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture as the Commonwealth's State Arts Agency; to establish minimum governance, accountability, and artist-payment standards; and for other purposes. [*Public comments concerning H.B. No. 24-110 were received during an open and public meeting after the measure was added to the amended House Agenda for September 25, 2026.*]	

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:

No measures were introduced on the House floor during the September 30, 2026, session.

LEGISLATIVE DEADLINE TRACKER (Informational)

Veto Override / Reconsideration Deadlines

GOV. COMM. 24-190: (rec'd 9/9/2026) Informing the House that he vetoed H. B. NO. 24-43, HD1, entitled, (*To create a new criminal offense for Desecration, Theft, or Attempted Sale of Stolen Memorials, Historical or Cultural Sites, and Property.*).
[*Veto deadline: 11/8/2026*] Read on September 18, 2026. Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations on September 18, 2026.

GOV. COMM. 24-194: (rec'd 9/23/2026) Informing the House that he vetoed H. B. NO. 24-40, entitled, (*To amend Title 4 of the Commonwealth Code to clarify the application of business registration, licensing, and tax laws to foreign corporations engaged in land development, infrastructure development, or construction activities in the Commonwealth, including those related to development projects performed under or in connection with contracts, subcontracts, or agreements with the United States.*).
[*Veto deadline: 11/22/2026*] Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and to the House Committee on Commerce on September 25, 2026.

GOV. COMM. 24-199: (rec'd 10/1/2026) Informing the House that he vetoed H. L. B. NO. 24-54, entitled, (*To amend 10 CMC § 12143 to lower the local gambling taxes, including online gaming.*).
[*Veto deadline: 11/30/2026*]

GOV. COMM. 24-200: (10/5/2026) Informing the House that he signed into law and line item vetoed in parts, H. B. No. 24-108, HS1, SD1, CCS1 (*To provide a Budget Plan of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Fiscal Year 2027 and make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations; and for other purposes.*). Became Public Law No. 24-40
[*Item Veto deadline: 12/4/2026*]

Executive Appointments Requiring Legislative Confirmation

Gov. Comm. 24-178: (rec'd 8/20/2026) From Governor David M. Apatang nominating Bernard P. Villagomez to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, representing the Third Senatorial District, for a four-year term expiring April 3, 2030, subject to confirmation by both the Senate and House of Representatives.
[Nomination withdrawn: See Gov. Comm. 24-208 (10/21/2026). Original nomination: Gov. Comm. 24-178; supporting documents: Gov. Comm. 24-187.]

Judicial Rule Review Period

None pending.