



Karl R. King-Nabors
Senate President
Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 27, 2026

To: All Members of the Senate

From: President of the Senate /s/
Senator Karl R. King-Nabors

Subject: CANCELLED and Rescheduled 2nd Day, Third Regular Session - 2026

By the powers vested in me pursuant to the Interim Rules of the Senate and the Open Government Act, this is to inform all members that the 2nd Day, Third Regular Senate Session scheduled for *Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 3:30 p.m., in the Senate Chamber – Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan* is hereby **CANCELLED until Wednesday, February 04, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.**

Your understanding and attendance are greatly appreciated.

cc: Speaker of the House
Director, LB
Senate Legal Counsels
Senate Clerk
Senate Sergeant-at-Arms
SAPLR
KSPN2 News
NMI News Service
Marianas Variety



The Senate

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500129
SAIPAN, MP 96950

Dolores S. Bermudes
Senate Clerk
Office of the Senate Clerk
Telephone: (670) 664-8850
Facsimile: (670) 664-8849
doloresbermudes.lb@gmail.com

January 30, 2026

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq.), the Senate of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will convene the following open and public session:

MEETING: **2nd Day, Third Regular Session - 2026**
DATE AND TIME: **Wednesday, February 04, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.**
LOCATION: **Senate Chamber – Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building,
Capitol Hill, Saipan.**

Copies of session call, this notice and agenda have been filed in the Office of the Senate Clerk, released to the media, and posted at the following locations:

Office of the Governor, Entrance Hall
House of Representatives, Entrance Hall
Senate, Entrance Hall
Commonwealth Legislature website (www.cnmileg.net)

Distribution List:

SAPLRO: amy.shai@gov.mp
NMINEWSSERVICE: brad.ruszala@nminewsservice.com
Power 99 Radio Station: tinasmsgsaipan@yahoo.com
KSPN NEWS
MVariety: jokenbuyur@yahoo.com
MARIANAS PRESS: thomas.manglona@marianaspress.com
KKMP Radio Station: cnmiradio@gmail.com



JANUARY 30, 2026

THE SENATE
TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
THIRD REGULAR SENATE SESSION - 2026

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
2 nd Day	Wednesday, February 04, 2026	1:30 p.m.
Senate Chamber - Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill - Saipan		

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

- A. **ROLL CALL:**
- B. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
- C. **READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL:**
 - 1. **SJ No. 24-20** - 1st Day, Third Regular Session - 01/16/26
- D. **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:**
 - 1. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-209:** Jan. 14, 2026 – Reporting additional funds available for appropriation from outside sources, particularly the Tobacco Settlement Funds.
 - 2. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-210:** Jan. 21, 2026 – *Vetoed* S.B. No. 24-04 – To advance indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian language education in the CNMI. ***[Deadline: 03/20/26]***
 - 3. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-211:** Jan. 21, 2026 – Signed into local law S.L.B. No. 24-03, D1 – To amend 10 CMC §2521 (g) to provide for the suspension of Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission members' compensation; and for other purposes, becomes ***TINIAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-09***.
 - 4. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-212:** Jan. 22, 2026 – Re-nomination of *Mr. James Steven Sirok* to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission representing the Third Senatorial District.

5. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-213:** Jan. 22, 2026 – Re-nomination of *Mr. Oscar Patrick Quitugua* to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission representing the First Senatorial District.
6. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-214:** Jan. 22, 2026 – Withdrawing the October 31, 2025 nomination of *Mr. Jessie Bert Manglona* to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
7. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-215:** Jan. 26, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest and drug test results of Mr. Raymond M. Muna to serve as a member of the Civil Service Commission, representing the Third Senatorial District.
8. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-216:** Jan. 26, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest and drug test results of Mr. James S. Sirok to serve as a member of the PUC, representing the Third Senatorial District.
9. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-217:** Jan. 21, 2026 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No. 24-35 – To appropriate \$16,925 of the Rota Poker License Fee Account under BU 3302; and for other purposes, becomes ***ROTA LOCAL LAW NO. 24-06***.
10. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-218:** Jan. 21, 2026 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No. 24-39, D1 – To appropriate Fifty-four Thousand Dollars (\$54,000.00) from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes, becomes ***TINIAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-10***.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY: (NONE)

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPT.:

1. **Dept. Msg. No. 24-18:** Jan. 16, 2026 – Dept. of Finance regarding MPLT EDA Line of Credit status Quarterly Report (10/16/25-01/15/26)
2. **Dept. Msg. No. 24-19:** Jan. 26, 2026 – DOF FY 2026, 1st Quarter Financial Report.

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE:

1. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-119:** Jan. 16, 2026 – Confirmation of Mr. James Ushio Miyahara Mendiola, Jr. to serve as a member of the CPUC on January 16, 2026. ***[FOR INFO.]***
2. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-120:** Jan. 20, 2026 – Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. No. 24-84** - To authorize the expenditure of \$2,105,563.00 identified by the Governor as a surplus from Fiscal Year 2025 revenues that shall be appropriated by the Legislature to the Public School System and to the 25% Retirees' Pension Obligation.

3. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-121:** Jan. 20, 2026 – Transmitting for Senate action **H.J.R. No. 24-11** - Directing the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and all relevant Commonwealth government agencies and public corporations to expedite planning, permitting, and deployment of viable renewable energy, storage, and resilience projects — and to coordinate energy-security and infrastructure-resilience strategies — in light of the accelerated phase-out of federal clean-energy incentives under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.
4. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-122:** Jan. 20, 2026 – From the Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure regarding CPUC Commissioner continuity request – Rationale and Transmission summary. ***[FOR INFO.]***

H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:

1. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-189:** Jan. 16, 2026 – Withdrawing H.B. No. 24-11 from the PUTC Committee.
2. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-190:** Jan. 22, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee the withdrawal of Mr. Jessie Bert Manglona to serve as a member of CEDA Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
3. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-191:** Jan. 28, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee Mr. James S. Sirok’s resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest and drug test results, re-nominated to serve as a member of PUC, representing the Third Senatorial District.
4. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-192:** Jan. 28, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee Mr. Raymond M. Muna’s resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest and drug test results, re-nominated to serve as a member of CSC, representing the Third Senatorial District.

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CNMI DELEGATE: (NONE)

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (NONE)

K. PRE-FILED BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Senate Local Bill No. 24-04:** To define and authorize the use of abandoned investigative deposits held by the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC); to establish procedures for notice, claims, and final disposition of such deposits; to authorize the appropriation of abandoned deposits to pay outstanding regulatory fees, assessments, penalties, and taxes owed to the Commission; and for other purposes. ***[SEN. JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER – 01/23/26]***

2. **Senate Bill No. 24-56:** To repeal and reenact 2 CMC § 4842 to increase the penalties for taking or destroying historic or cultural artifacts and properties; and for other purposes. *[SEN. CORINA L. MAGOFNA – 01/23/26]*
3. **Senate Bill No. 24-57:** To amend 4 CMC § 5611 to modernize and clarify the general business licensing framework to promote economic efficiency, business growth, and administrative consistency. *[SEN. MANNY GREGORY T. CASTRO – 01/23/26]*

L. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS:

M. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-50:** From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **Senate Bill No. 24-05** - To establish a Fire Reserve Corps to assist the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS) and the Commonwealth Ports Authority-Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (CPA-ARFF) in fire prevention and suppression, rescue operations, basic and advanced life support; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
2. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-51:** From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **House Bill No. 24-26** – To amend the crime of child abuse. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
3. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-52:** From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **Senate Bill No. 24-38** – To rename the DPS Boating Safety Building to the “Jose Camacho Sablan Boating Safety Station” in recognition of his contributions and dedication to ensuring the safety of the public in the surrounding waters of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
4. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-53:** From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **Senate Bill No. 24-40** – To amend 9 CMC §3114 by requiring the Department of Public Safety’s Rules & Regulations regarding Commercial vehicles be consistent with those of the United States Department of Transportation’s Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
5. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-54:** From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **Senate Bill No. 24-41** – To establish a Child Abuse and Neglect Central Registry in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
6. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-55:** From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on **Senate Bill No. 24-47** – To require all contractors to be licensed in

the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes.
[Recommends passage in its current form]

7. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-56:** From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on ***House Bill No. 24-35*** – To amend certain provisions of the CNMI Good Samaritan Act [7 CMC §2801 *et seq.*]; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
8. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-57:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on ***House Bill No. 24-24, HD1*** – To enact 4 CMC § 1208 and 4 CMC § 1313 to establish a Legal Services and Access to Justice Tax Credit. *[Recommends passage in form of H.B. No. 24-24, HD1, SD1]*
9. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-58:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on ***House Bill No. 24-33*** – To statutorily define the scope of the Commonwealth's annual General Revenues within the meaning of Article XV, Section 1(e) of the NMI Constitution. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
10. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-59:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on ***House Bill No. 24-63*** – To amend Title 4 sections 1991 to 1995 relating to the 3% construction tax on gross revenues derived from certain non-residential construction projects and to enact a new section 1996 pertaining to Applicability; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
11. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-60:** From the Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Workforce reporting on ***House Bill No. 24-13, HD1*** – To amend the fee structure for the Office of the Registrar of Corporations under the Department of Commerce and to remove daily penalty fees. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
12. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-61:** From the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of ***Ms. Janet U. Maratita*** to serve on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Board of Directors to represent the Third Senatorial District and the Private Sector.
13. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-62:** From the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of ***Mr. Paul Andrew C. Guerrero*** to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Northern Marianas Technical Institute to represent the Third Senatorial District.
14. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-63:** From the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of ***Mr. Michael N. Evangelista*** to serve as a member of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents representing the Private Sector and Carolinian Community.
15. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-64:** From the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of

Mr. Dave B. Guerrero to serve as a member of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents representing the Third Senatorial District and Private Sector.

16. Standing Committee Report No. 24-65: From the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of **Mr. Mark O. Rabauliman** to serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the Commonwealth Economic Incentive Authority representing the Public Sector and Carolinian Community.

N. REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: (NONE)

O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:

P. BILL CALENDAR:

FINAL READING

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.B. No. 24-05 (See SCRep. No. 24-50)	To establish a Fire Reserve Corps to assist the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS) and the Commonwealth Ports Authority-Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (CPA-ARFF) in fire prevention and suppression, rescue operations, basic and advanced life support; and for other purposes.
S.B. No. 24-38 (See SCRep. No. 24-52)	To rename the DPS Boating Safety Building to the “Jose Camacho Sablan Boating Safety Station” in recognition of his contributions and dedication to ensuring the safety of the public in the surrounding waters of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
S.B. No. 24-40 (See SCRep. No. 24-53)	To amend 9 CMC §3114 by requiring the Department of Public Safety’s Rules & Regulations regarding Commercial vehicles be consistent with those of the United States Department of Transportation’s Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; and for other purposes.
S.B. No. 24-41 (See SCRep. No. 24-54)	To establish a Child Abuse and Neglect Central Registry in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

S.B. No. 24-47 (See SCRep. No. 24-55)	To require all contractors to be licensed in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes.
H.B. No. 24-13, HD1 (See SCRep. No. 24-60)	To amend the fee structure for the Office of the Registrar of Corporations under the Department of Commerce and to remove daily penalty fees.
H.B. No. 24-26 (See SCRep. No. 24-51)	To amend the crime of child abuse.
H.B. No. 24-35 (See SCRep. No. 24-56)	To amend certain provisions of the CNMI Good Samaritan Act [7 CMC §2801 <i>et seq.</i>]; and for other purposes.
H.B. No. 24-11 (See HC 24-07)	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.
H.B. No. 24-24, HD1, SD1 (See SCRep. No. 24-57)	To enact 4 CMC § 1208 and 4 CMC § 1313 to establish a Legal Services and Access to Justice Tax Credit
H.B. No. 24-33 (See SCRep. No. 24-58)	To statutorily define the scope of the Commonwealth's annual General Revenues within the meaning of Article XV, Section 1(e) of the NMI Constitution.
H.B. No. 24-63 (See SCRep. No. 24-59)	To amend Title 4 sections 1991 to 1995 relating to the 3% construction tax on gross revenues derived from certain non-residential construction projects and to enact a new section 1996 pertaining to Applicability; and for other purposes.

Q. PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS;

1. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-73:** Jan. 15, 2026 – CHCC re: H.B. No. 24-59, HD1 – CNMI Fair Billing Practices Act.

Note: MC 24-74 appeared on Jan. 16th Senate Session agenda.

2. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-75:** Nov. 08, 2025 – Youth Congress Resolution Nos. 20-02 NMC-CREES and 20-03 Jacqueline Quitugua.
3. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-76:** Nov. 08, 2025 – Youth Congress Commemorative Res. Nos 20-01 – 20-03 (Nuñez, Late Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Late Honorable Diego Benavente).
4. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-77:** Jan. 22, 2026 – OPA on the report on CNMI Agencies’ Implementation of Audit & Inspection recommendations.

R. ANNOUNCEMENTS; and

S. ADJOURNMENT.

APPEARANCE OF SENATE LOCAL BILLS

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.L.B. No. 24-04	To define and authorize the use of abandoned investigative deposits held by the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC); to establish procedures for notice, claims, and final disposition of such deposits; to authorize the appropriation of abandoned deposits to pay outstanding regulatory fees, assessments, penalties, and taxes owed to the Commission; and for other purposes.

1st Appearance

The Senate may consider, debate, and/or act upon any item contained in this Order of Business at the time and place described herein.