

OFFICE OF SENATOR JUDE U. HOFSCHNEIDER

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT

CHAIRMAN-FISCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN-PUBLIC UTILITIES, TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN-TINIAN & AGUIGUAN LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE:

July 31, 2025

TO:

To all active Government Employees and Private Citizens

FROM:

Senator Jude U. Hofschneider.

Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Fiscal **A**ffairs

SUBJECT: Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting re House Concurrent Resolution 24-2

This is to inform all members that the Committee will convene a meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025 at 1:30 pm in the Senate Chamber of the Honorable Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building.

To ensure the Committee properly receives written comments on agenda items, the public shall submit their written testimonies to the Office of Senator Jude U. Hofschneider, Hon. Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, prior to the convening of the committee meeting. Oral testimony may be presented during the committee meeting. If you wish to present oral testimony, please inform the Office of Senator Jude U. Hofschneider no later than 24 hours prior to the committee meeting.

cc:

Senate FA Members

LB- Director Senate Clerk

Senate Legal Counsels Senate Legal Assistants Senate Fiscal Analyst



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CHAIRMAN-FISCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN-PUBLIC UTILITIES, TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN-TINIAN & AGUIGUAN LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

July 31, 2025

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC § 9901 et seq.), the Senate Standing Committee on Fiscal Affairs announces that the Committee of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature will be conducting the following meeting:

MEETING:

Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting: [House Concurrent Resolution 24-2]

DATE AND TIME:

Monday, August 11, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION:

Senate Chamber

Copies of this notice and the agenda have been filed in the Office of Senator Jude U. Hofschneider, 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.gov.mp)

To ensure the Committee properly receives written comments on agenda items, the public may submit their written testimonies to the Office of Senator Jude U. Hofschneider, Hon. Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, prior to the convening of the committee meeting. Oral testimony may be presented during the committee meeting.

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

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TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT

CHAIRMAN-FISCAL AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN-PUBLIC UTILITIES, TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN-TINIAN & AGUIGUAN LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

TELEPHONE: (670) 664-8874 MAILING: P.O. Box 500129 Saipan, MP 96950 EMAIL: senator.hofschneider@gmail.com | senator.juh.staff@gmail.com

FISCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AGENDA

	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Aug	ust 11, 2025	1:30 p.m.	Senate Chamber
I.	CALL TO ORDER		
TT	ROLL CALL		

- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT
- V. NEW BUSINESS
 - 1. House Concurrent Resolution No. 24-02; House Concurrent Resolution No. 24-2, entitled, To Define and Identify General Revenue and 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 2026, beginning October 1, 2025, and ending on September 30, 2026. [Representative John Paul P. Sablan; Referred on July 24, 2025]

Request for Comments (RFC) Deadline/Date Received Committee Action:

- □ Public Hearing: □ Yes □ No
- □ Committee Report to: □ Pass in Original Form □ Pass with Amendments
- □ Reject □ File
- □ Hold for Further Discussion
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building Capitol Hill Saipan, MP 96950 cnmileg.net

July 15, 2025

The Honorable Dennis C. Mendiola President The Senate Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature Capitol Hill Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Senate President Mendiola:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for Senate action H. C. R. No. 24-2, entitled: "To Define and Identify General Revenue and 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 2026, beginning October 1, 2025, and ending on September 30, 2026.", which was adopted by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, during its First Day, Fourth Special Session on July 14, 2025.

Sincerely yours.

Linda B. Muña, MPA

House Clerk

Attachment

Transmittal to the SENATE

Received by:

Date: 7/1525

Time: 0'37 au

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2025

Fourth Special Session, 2025

H. Con. Res. 24-2

A HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To Define and Identify General Revenue and 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 2026, beginning October 1, 2025, and ending on September 30, 2026.

1	WHEREAS, pursuant to Article III, Section 9(a) of the Commonwealth
2	Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC §§ 7201, 7202 and 7203, the governor shall
3	submit to the Legislature a proposed annual balanced budget for the following
4	Fiscal Year and the proposed balanced budget shall describe anticipated revenues
5	of the Commonwealth and recommend expenditures of Commonwealth funds; and
6	WHEREAS, Governor Arnold I. Palacios has identified projected resources
7	in the amount of \$179,701,969 for the Commonwealth Government and Related
8	Agencies for Fiscal Year 2026 in his proposed budget transmittal letter dated April
9	1, 2025 plus \$4,892,548 for the Department of Public Lands; and
10	WHEREAS, for purposes of appropriation, the Legislature designates
11	"General Revenues" as the portion of total available resources for Fiscal Year 2026
12	remaining after deductions for debt service, revenue transfers, and other mandatory

1	obligations, and Department of Public Lands, and approves the amount of
2	\$127,455,066;
3	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of
4	Representatives of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth
5	Legislature, the Senate concurring, that revenues for Fiscal Year 2026, beginning
6	October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026, as submitted by the Governor and
7	reviewed by the Legislature are hereby approved as follows:
8	I. The total identified budgetary resources for FY 2026 is: \$179,701,969
9	Department of Public Lands: \$4,892,548
10	Total Revenue Including DPL: <u>\$184,594,517</u>
11	II. This amount is subject to the following adjustments:
12	(A) Less Earmarks:
13	(1) Special Earmarks
14	a) MVA – Hotel (80%) 4 CMC §1803 (\$7,085,234)
15	(2) Unsuspended Earmarks
16	a) IDC Reimbursement to Office of Grants Management
17	35%, 1 CMC § 2893 (\$937,843)
18	b) Vehicle Registration Fees, PL 11-55 (\$807,684)
19	c) Admiralty and Maritime Fees, 4 CMC § 1222 (\$4.323)
20	d) Weapon Fees, PL19-73 (\$23,925)
21	e) Corporation Fees, 4 CMC § 4205 (\$135,598)

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 24-2

1	f) Rev & Tax Enforcement – 4 CMC §1503(c) (\$0)		
2	g) Operator License Fees (net), 9 CMC §2202	<u>(\$0)</u>	
3	h) Building Safety Code Fees, 2 CMC §7132	<u>(\$0)</u>	
4	i) Solid Waste Fund Tipping/Disposal/User Fees 2 CMC	§3551 <u>(\$0)</u>	
5	j) Driver's License Fees (PL 20-39)	<u>(\$0)</u>	
6	k) Lottery Commission Revenue (PL 3-60)	<u>(\$0)</u>	
7	(3) General Earmarks		
8	a) Solid Waste Fund (7%) of Excise Tax, 4 CMC §1402(g)(1) (\$1,380,046)		
9	Subtotal	(\$10,374,653)	
10	(B) Less Debt Services previously Appropriated:		
11	(1) 2007A Refunding Bond Payment	(\$3,618,500)	
12	(2) 2007B Refunding Bond Payment	(\$3,361,750)	
13	(3) 2024A Pension Obligation Note Payment (BOG)	(\$5,892,000)	
14	(C) Less Settlement Agreement:		
15	(1) Settlement Fund Agreement, 468-1, PL 20-33	(\$29,000,000)	
16	Subtotal	(\$41,872,250)	
17	III. Total local revenue and resources:	\$132,347,614	
18	Department of Public Lands:	(\$4,892,548)	
19	General Revenue: Total local revenue and resources		
20	available for appropriation for Commonwealth		
21	Government activities in Fiscal Year 2026:	<u>\$127,455,066</u>	

1	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that on June 30, 2025, at the Marianas
2	Public Land Trust (MPLT) General Fund regular meeting, the Trustees "approved
3	to consider" Scenario 2 (Low Interest) of the Administration's \$29 million
4	investment proposal; Scenario 2 requires the full faith and credit of the CNMI
5	Government, through legislation authorizing MPLT to withhold 100% distributable
6	net income as payment towards debt service of an approved investment;
7	Furthermore, Scenario 2 is the only option the Trustees have decided to consider
8	and have set a deadline of 90 days for the passing of the required withholding
9	legislation and due diligence review process;
10	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event that the Legislature
11	authorizes a loan in the amount of \$29,000,000 for the payment of the Settlement
12	Fund with MPLT, the freed up \$29,000,000 shall be remitted to the Legislature for
13	appropriation purposes; and
14	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Speaker of the House of
15	Representatives and the President of the Senate shall certify and the House Clerk
16	and the Senate Legislative Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this concurrent
17	resolution and thereafter the House Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to the
18	Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern
19	Mariana Islands.
	Prefiled: 7/8/2025
	Date: Introduced by: /s/ Rep. John Paul P. Sablan

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 24-2

/s/ Rep. Roy C.A. Ada
/s/ Rep. Vincent R. Aldan
/s/ Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao
/s/ Rep. Roman C. Benavente
/s/ Rep. Angelo A. Camacho
/s/ Rep. Diego V. F. Camacho
/s/ Rep. Joel C. Camacho
/s/ Rep. Joseph A. Flores
/s/ Rep. Marissa R. Flores
/s/ Rep. Thomas J. DLC. Manglona
/s/ Rep. Julie M. A. Ogo
/s/ Rep. Raymond U. Palacios
/s/ Rep. Elias J.M. Rangamar
/s/ Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas
/s/ Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez
/s/ Rep. Denita Kaipat Yangetmai
/s/ Rep. Ralph N. Yumul

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

/s/ Joseph L.G. Taijeron, Jr.
House Legal Counsel

Date: 7/8/2025