



NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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2/11/2025

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 Second Day, First Regular Session
Date and Time: Friday, February 14, 2025, at 11:00 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 Friday, February 14, 2025.

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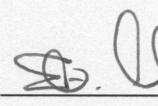
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EDMUND SABLÁN VILLAGOMEZ
SPEAKER


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

MEMORANDUM

DATE : 11 February 2025
TO : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS
FROM : Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez 
SUBJECT : Call for Session, 2nd 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 **2nd day, 1st Regular Session for Friday, 14 February 2025 at 11:00 a.m.** in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President
House Clerk
LB Director
SAPLR
Media

HOUSE CLERK'S OFF
RECEIVED BY 
DATE 2/11/2025 TIME 10:31 am



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION 2025

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
2nd Day, First Regular Session	Friday, February 14, 2025	11:00 a.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Moment of Silence

1. ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

First Day, First Regular Session Journal - January 13, 2025

4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

A. House Bills:

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*)

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)

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*)

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*)

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*)

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, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

B. House Local Bills:

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*)

C. House Legislative Initiatives:

5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

A. House Resolutions:

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

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*)

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, 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)

B. *House Joint Resolutions:*

C. *House Commemorative Resolutions:*

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)

D. *House Concurrent Resolutions:*

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.

Prefiled by: REP. BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

GOV. COMM. 24-1: (1/10/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. No. 23-120, HD1, SS1, SD1, (*To impose a 3% surtax on gross revenues derived from non-residential construction projects that cost three hundred fifty thousand dollars or more.*). Became **Public Law 23-31** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-2: (1/10/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. No. 23-54 (*To regulate afok or bweesch (lime) under the Pure Food and Drug Control Act; and for other purposes.*). Became **Public Law 23-32** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-3: (1/10/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. No. 23-67, SS1 (*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.). Became **Public Law 23-33** [For info]

GOV. COMM. 24-4: (1/10/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. No. 23-17, HD1 (*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.*). Became **Public Law 23-34** [For info]

GOV. COMM. 24-5: (1/10/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-60, D2, (*To impose an additional 1% tax on the yearly gross revenue of constructions activities in excess of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00).*). Became **Saipan Local Law 23-24** [For info]

GOV. COMM. 24-6: (1/16/2025) Informing the Senate re: Senate Appointment to the CNMI America250 Commission. [For info]

GOV. COMM. 24-7: (1/16/2025) Informing the House re: House Appointment to the CNMI America250 Commission. [For info]

GOV. COMM. 24-8: (1/17/2025) Informing the House re: Completion of Pension Obligation Bond Issuance and Request for Legislative Action on Workforce Hours Restoration and Budget Reallocation. [For info-consideration]

GOV. COMM. 24-9: (1/17/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-71, D1, (*To appropriate \$18,000.00 from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.*). Became **Tinian Local Law 23-21** [For info]

GOV. COMM. 24-10: (2/7/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 23-54, D2, (*To impose a 0.5% ad valorem local excise surtax for the privilege of imposing construction materials from outside the Commonwealth by licensed construction contractors into the Second Senatorial District.*). Became **Tinian Local Law 23-22** [For info]

7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

SEN. COMM. 24-1: (1/13/2025) From the Senate Clerk informing the House that the 24th Senate of the NMCL is duly organized and formally conveys the following officers:

- **President:** Senator Dennis C. Mendiola
- **Vice President:** Senator Karl R. King-Nabors
- **Floor Leader:** Senator Donald M. Manglona
- **Legislative Secretary:** Senator Francisco Q. Cruz

SEN. COMM. 24-2: (1/22/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 24-01, entitled, "*To adopt the Interim Rules of the Senate for the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.*". [For info]

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 24-1: (1/14/2025) From Speaker Villagomez, appointing members to the Ad Hoc Committee pursuant to HRes 24-1. The appointments are as follows:

- **Chair:** Floor Leader Marissa R. Flores
- **Members:**
Vice Speaker Diego Vincent F. Camacho

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao

HSE. COMM. 24-2: (1/15/2025) From Representative John Paul P. Sablan, WM Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Ways & Means. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-3: (1/15/2025) From Representative Julie M. A. Ogo, Toursim Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Tourism. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-4: (1/16/2025) From Representative Vincent R. Aldan, PUTC Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-5: (1/15/2025) From Representative Ralph N. Yumul, Gaming Chair, appointing members to the House Committee on Gaming. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-6: (1/15/2025) From Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, F&FA Chair, appointing members to the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-7: (1/17/2025) From Representative Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, Cannabis Chair, appointing members to the House Committee on Cannabis. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-8: (1/21/2024) From Representative Malcolm J. Omar, H&W Chair, appointing members to the House Committee on Health and Welfare. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-9: (1/21/2025) From Representative John Paul P. Sablan informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal matters beginning January 22, 2025—February 22, 2025 and request to be excused from any legislative sessions, committee meetings, or official functions during his absence.
During his absence, he designates Vice Chair Celina R. Babauta, as Acting Chair for the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD). [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-10: (1/15/2025) From Representative Joel C. Camacho, JGO Chair, appointing members to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-11: (1/24/2025) From Representative Thomas John DLC. Manglona, Commerce Chair, appointing members to the House Standing Committee on Commerce. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-12: (1/22/2025) From Representative Roman C. Benavente, Education Chair, appointing members to the House Committee on Education. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-13: (1/27/2025) From Representative Angel A. Camacho, NR Chair, appointing members to the House Committee on Natural Resources. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-14: (2/4/2025) From Representative Thomas John DLC. Manglona informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on medical leave beginning February 10, 2025—February 18, 2025 and request to be excused from all legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings, and any official functions. [*For info*]

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH – (None)

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-1: (1/29/2025) From the Department of Public Lands (DPL), requesting legislative review and approval of a new long-term lease with “Mariana Eland Corporation” for the former Marianas Resort & Spa property in Marpi, Saipan.

Note: See DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 23-21 & DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-4 for all supporting documents under the 24th House of Representatives network folder. [*For info-consideration*]

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-2: (1/29/2025) From the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) Board of Directors re: *Funding Request for FY 2025—FY 2026*. [*For info*]

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-3: (1/31/2025) From the Secretary, Department of Finance (DOF) submitting *FY 2024—First Quarter Financial Report ending December 31, 2024*. [*For info*]

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-4: (2/3/2025) From the Department of Public Lands (DPL) submitting packet for a new lease for Mariana Eland Corporation (“Eland”) for the Legislature’s review and consideration re: *Mariana Eland Corporation New Lease for former Mariana Resort & Spa Property*, in accordance to Article XI, Section 5(d) of the NMI Constitution. [*For info-consideration*]

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 24-1: (1/13/2025) Congresswoman Kimberlyn King-Hinds, Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, congratulates the 24th House of Representatives, NMCL, on its inauguration. She expresses her readiness to collaborate with the Speaker of the House and the designated Committee on Federal Relations. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-2: (1/17/2025)

From the Chairman of the 24th Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) informing the House that it is duly organized and formally conveys the following officers:

- **Chairman:** Representative John Paul P. Sablan
- **Vice Chair:** Senator Celina R. Babauta
- **Floor Leader:** Representative Joel C. Camacho

MISC. COMM. 24-3: (1/21/2025) From the Chairman of the 24th Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation (TALD) informing the House that it is duly organized and formally conveys the following officers:

- **Chairman:** Senator Jude U. Hofschneider
- **Vice Chair:** Senator Francisco Q. Cruz
- **Floor Leader:** Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas
- **Legislative Secretary:** Senator Karl R. King-Nabors

MISC. COMM. 24-4: (1/22/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of TALD Resolution No. 24-01, entitled, “*To adopt the Official Rules of Procedures of the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation for the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature*.”. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-5: (1/14/2025) From the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of the Chuuk State Legislature, congratulating the 24th House of Representatives and Senate, NMCL, and its newly elected officers. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-6: (1/28/2025) From the Mayor of Saipan, requesting legislative support to reinstate six full-time equivalent (FTE) positions in the Saipan Mayor’s Office. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-7: (1/29/2025) From the Chairman of the 24th Rota Legislative Delegation (RLD) informing the House that it is duly organized and formally conveys the following officers:

- **Chairman:** Senator Donald M. Manglona
- **Vice Chair:** Senator Ronnie M. Calvo
- **Floor Leader:** Representative Julie M.A. Ogo
- **Legislative Secretary:** Senator Dennis J. C. Mendiola

MISC. COMM. 24-8: (1/30/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of RLD Resolution No. 24-01, entitled, *“To adopt the Official Rules of Procedures of the Rota Legislative Delegation for the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.”*. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-9: (1/22/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Resolution No. 19-31, entitled, *“Congratulating Kelly Zheng, Mai Peters, YuLing Chai, and Jedric Aniciete for winning the 2024 Congressional App Challenge and representing the Northern Marianas Islands Youth in the 2025 #HOUSEOFCODE event in Washington, D.C.”*. [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

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: