



# NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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4/17/2025

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 First Day, First Special Session  
**Date and Time:** Thursday, April 24, 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](http://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 Thursday, April 24, 2025.

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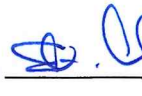
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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**  
**Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building**  
**P. O. BOX 500586**  
**Saipan, MP 96950**

**EDMUND SABLAN VILLAGOMEZ**  
**SPEAKER**

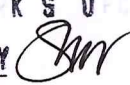
## MEMORANDUM

**DATE** : 15 April 2025  
**TO** : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS  
**FROM** : Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez   
**SUBJECT** : Call for Session, 1<sup>st</sup> Day, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session

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Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the **1<sup>st</sup> Day, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session for Thursday, 24 April 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President  
House Clerk  
LB Director  
SAPLR  
Media

TO : CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED BY   
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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
SPECIAL SESSION 2025

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
1 <sup>st</sup> Day, First Special Session	Thursday, April 24, 2025	10:00 a.m.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

*A Moment of Silence*

### 1. ROLL CALL

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

### 3. ADOPTION OF JOURNALS – (3)

*Third Day, First Regular Session Journal – March 11, 2025*

*Fourth Day, First Regular Session Journal – March 21, 2025*

*Fifth Day, First Regular Session Journal – March 25, 2025*

### 4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### A. *House Bills:*

#### **H. B. No. 24-19**

To rename the “CNMI Scholarship Office” to the “CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office”.

**Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 and **REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for themselves*, Representative Ralph N. Yumul)

#### **H. B. No. 24-20**

To require conspicuous warning labels be placed on all betel nut products and containers that are imported or sold in the CNMI.

**Prefiled by: REP. BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Elias J.M. Rangamar, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

#### **H. B. No. 24-21**

To establish the Joint Oversight of Incoming Non-local Transfers Act to mandate Legislative and Executive Appropriation for all Non-Locally-Sourced Funds allocated for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**Prefiled by: REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*)

**H. B. No. 24-22**

To repeal and reenact the Justice Center Fund Revolving Account.

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

**H. B. No. 24-23**

To amend 9 CMC § 2116 to update the definitions of “veteran” and “disabled veteran” and to allow a valid Veteran ID Card to be used as proof of veteran status when applying for a veteran’s license plate.

**Prefiled by: REP. JULIE M. A. OGO** of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*)

**H. B. No. 24-24**

To enact 4 CMC § 1208 and 4 CMC § 1312 to establish a Legal Services and Access to Justice Tax Credit.

**Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*, Representatives Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Diego V. F. Camacho, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

**H. B. No. 24-25**

To establish mandatory consecutive sentencing for repeat felony offenders on probation or parole, and to ensure consistent application of sentencing laws.

**Prefiled by: REP. DANIEL I. AQUINO JR.** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and Marissa R. Flores)

**H. B. No. 24-26**

To amend the crime of child abuse.

**Prefiled by: REP. MALCOLM J. OMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

**H. B. No. 24-27**

To establish an excise tax for betelnut/areca nut and lime mix/*afok*/or *bweesch*.

**Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES** of Saipan, Precinct 3, **REP. MALCOLM J. OMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 4, and **REP. ELIAS J. M. RANGAMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for themselves*)

**B. House Local Bills:**

**H. L. B. No. 24-7**

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*)

**H. L. B. No. 24-8**

To appropriate the remaining fund balance of \$85,500.00 under Saipan Local Law 23-04 for the repair, maintenance and improvements of recreational facilities in Precinct IV; and for other purposes.

**Prefiled by: REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO** and **REP. MALCOLM J. OMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for themselves*)

**C.     *House Legislative Initiatives:***

**5.     INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

**A.     *House Resolutions:***

**H. RES. NO. 24-7**

To honor the 55 years of exemplary service rendered by Peace Corps Volunteers to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and to extend a warm and respectful welcome to those returning to the islands that they once called home.

**Prefiled by: REP. ELIAS J. M. RANGAMAR** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

**B.     *House Joint Resolutions:***

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

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

**6.     MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**

GOV. COMM. 24-15: (3/31/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 24-2, D1, (*To appropriate Eighty Four Thousand Dollars (\$84,000.00) from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.*). Became **Tinian Local Law 24-2** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-16: (4/1/2023 via Email) Submitting the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 (\$147,516,288 available for appropriation). [*For info*]

*Note: Attachments for Gov. Comm. 24-16 comprising Volumes I through III, are voluminous. The files are fully searchable and readable. Members may access the complete file on the 24<sup>th</sup> House network file server. For assistance, please contact or visit the House Clerk's Office.*

GOV. COMM. 24-17: (4/7/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 24-6, (*To appropriate the remaining fund balance of \$50,411.00 under Saipan Local Law 21-10 (Project Code 7192H) for the maintenance, repairs and improvements of Commonwealth parks and recreational facilities in Precinct IV and for the purchase of base coarse to repair secondary roadways in Precinct IV; and for other purposes.*). Became **Saipan Local Law 24-01** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-18: (4/9/2025) Certifying and granting approval for Ms. Olga Kelley, Assistant Attorney General, at the Attorney General's Office to receive an annual salary of \$80,000. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-19: (4/11/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 24-4, D1, (*To appropriate \$40,000 for the Department of Finance Rota Division and the Mayor of Rota's*

*operations; as well as \$731 for fuel and lubrication under the Rota Department of Lands and Natural Resources.*). Became **Rota Local Law 24-01** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 24-20: (4/11/2025 received **4/14/2025**) Informing the House that he vetoed, S. L. B. NO. 24-01, D1, (*To amend the Tinian Local Law 21-09 to provide for regulatorily compliant internet gaming; to authorize the establishment of the Tinian Stable Token; and for other purposes.*). [**Deadline 6/13/2025**]

GOV. COMM. 24-21: (4/7/2025 received **4/16/2025**) Informing the House that he signed into law and line item vetoed in parts, H. L. B. NO. 24-03, D2, (*To appropriate revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59.*). Became **Saipan Local Law 24-02 item vetoed** [**Deadline 6/15/2025**]

## 7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS – (None)

## 8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 24-24: (3/21/2025) From Representative Angelo A. Camacho, Chair of the House Standing Committee on Natural Resources, regarding the appointment of an additional member to the committee. In addition to the current members, Rep. Malcolm J. Omar is hereby appointed to serve on the House Standing Committee on Natural Resources. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-25: (3/21/2025) From Representative John Paul P. Sablan informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business beginning March 23, 2025—March 25, 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. 24-26: (4/2/2025) From Representative John Paul P. Sablan informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal matters beginning April 8, 2025—May 15, 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. 24-27: (4/16/2025) From Representative Thomas John DLC. Manglona informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal matters beginning April 17, 2025—April 21, 2025 and request to be excused from all legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings, and any official functions. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-28: (4/16/2025) From Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez to Governor Arnold I. Palacios *re: Request for Executive Action and Federal Engagement on CNMI-G ETA Processing Delays under EVS-TAP*. [*For info*]

## 9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH – (None)

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-7: (3/14/2025) From the Department of Public Works (DPW) submitting *CNMI 4-year Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) for the period of FY 2024 to 2027*. [*For info*]



## 11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 24-21: (3/17/2025) From the Commonwealth Casino Commission re: *Submission of the Commonwealth Casino Commission budget request for FY 2026*. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-22: (3/25/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of TALD Resolution No. 24-02, entitled, “*To commend and recognize Marvin Ngirarois Cruz Sr. for his unyielding contributions to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*.”. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-23: (3/27/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Resolution No. 19-32, entitled, “*Congratulating 13 QuestBridge National College Match Recipients from Marianas High School and Recognizing their excellences for receiving full scholarships to top universities*.”. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-24: (3/27/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Resolution No. 19-33, entitled, “*To commend the POLKSAI Chamorro Club at Marianas High School for their outstanding achievements at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual CNMI CCLHS State Level Language & Cultural Performing Arts Competition and for representing the CNMI at the upcoming Chamorro Competition in Guam*.”. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-25: (3/27/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Resolution No. 19-34, entitled, “*To commend the outstanding achievements of Hannah Lim, Henry Yeom, David Park, Alexis Salundaguit, Jim Sison, and Joan Song from Marianas High School who qualified to compete in the 2025 National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Competition in West Des Moines, Iowa*.”. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-26: (3/27/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Resolution No. 19-35, entitled, “*Recognizing Grace Christian Ministries for 40 years of service, preaching, and evangelization to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*.”. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-27: (3/27/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Bill No. 19-04, entitled, “*To repeal and re-enact the CNMI Youth Congress Act; and for other purposes*.”, which was passed by the 19th CNMI Youth Congress on August 17, 2024. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-28: (3/27/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Youth Congress Bill No. 19-05, entitled, “*Requiring Background Checks for Youth Affiliated Sports Administration, Coaches, Trainers, and Instructors; and for other purposes*.”, which was passed by the 19th CNMI Youth Congress on August 17, 2024. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-29: (received 3/28/2025) From the CEO, Commonwealth HealthCare Corporation (CHCC) re: *Submission of the Board-Approved Budget for the CHCC FY 2026*. [For info]

*Note: Attachments for Miscellaneous Communication 24-29 consist of a total of 337 pages. The files are fully searchable and readable. Members may access the complete file on the 24<sup>th</sup> House network file server. For assistance, please contact or visit the House Clerk's Office.*

MISC. COMM. 24-30: (4/9/2025) From Karidat re: *Hold on FY24 VAWA/SASP Funds-Impact on Karidat's Victim Services in the CNMI*. [For info]

MISC. COMM. 24-31: (4/9/2025) Transmitting certified copies of the following: RLD Resolution No. 24-02; RLD Resolution No. 24-03; and RLD Resolution No. 24-04; and RLD Resolution No. 24-05, which was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on April 4, 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
<b>S. J. R. NO. 24-02</b> [See SEN. COMM. 24-6]	A Senate Joint Resolution to call for a Joint Session of the Legislature to receive the Governor’s State of the Commonwealth Address.	

**16. BILL CALENDAR**

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action
<b>H. B. NO. 24-8</b>	A Bill for an Act 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. <i>[No public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 3/11/2025 &amp; 3/21/2025]</i>	

**17. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**18. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(ADJOURNMENT)**

***APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS***

**FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative appearance of a local bill is on the day it is introduced.

**SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY:**

**THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:**

H. L. B. NO. 24-5: To amend the Saipan Zoning Law to define “Automobile Sales & Service” and to establish a screening requirement for “Automobile Sales & Service” businesses that are adjacent to certain zoning districts. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*) on March 21, 2025

***Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on March 25, 2025:***

C. RES. NO. 24-2: To honor the life and legacy of the late Honorable Miguel Mendiola Sablan for his meaningful contributions to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and to extend our sincere condolences and sympathies to his family. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*, Representatives Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R. 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* *Thomas J. DiC. Manglona, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, Elias J.M. Rangamar, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai*) on March 25, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.