



NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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5/12/2025

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, Second Special Session
Date and Time: Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 3:00 PM
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 Thursday, May 15, 2025.

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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 : 12 MAY 2025
TO : ALL HOUSE MEMBERS
FROM : SPEAKER EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ 
SUBJECT : Call for Session, 1st Day, 2nd Special Session

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call the **1st Day, 2nd Special Session for Thursday, 15 May 2025 at 3:00 p.m.** in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President
House Clerk
LB Director
SAPLR
Media

TO : CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED BY 
DATE 5/12/2025 TIME 10:20 AM



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
SPECIAL SESSION 2025

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
1 st Day, Second Special Session	Thursday, May 15, 2025	3:00 p.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. 24-28

To establish a grand jury system in the Commonwealth for use in criminal investigations and prosecutions, and to provide for related powers and procedures.

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

H. B. No. 24-29

To reconcile public utility accounts between CHCC and CUC by waiving intra-governmental penalties and preserving enforceable debt obligations; and for other purposes.

Prefiled by: **REP. VINCENT R. ALDAN** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Malcolm J. Omar, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

B. House Local Bills:

H. L. B. No. 24-9

To amend Rota Local Law 23-15, to appropriate One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$155,000.00) for the continued operation of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission; and for other purposes.

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

C. House Legislative Initiatives:

5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

A. House Resolutions:

B. House Joint Resolutions:

C. House Commemorative Resolutions:

C. RES. NO. 24-3

To honor Alleena Villaluz for her exceptional achievements in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, academics, and extracurricular activities, and to celebrate her unwavering dedication and exemplary contributions as a role model for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prefiled by: REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Diego V. F. Camacho, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, Elias J.M. Rangamar, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul*)

D. House Concurrent Resolutions:

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

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

SEN. COMM. 24-11: (4/28/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 24-03, entitled, “*To recognize and commend Lieutenant Colonel Adrian “Savage” Evangelista, United States Marine Corps for his selfless service answering the call to defend and protect our nation and play a fundamental role in the armed forces of the United States of America.*”. [For info]

SEN. COMM. 24-12: (4/28/2025) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Commemorative Resolution No. 24-01, entitled, “*To recognize and commend the Saipan Eagle Lions Club and the Saipan Beacon Lions Club for their outstanding achievements in membership growth and retention.*”. [For info]

SEN. COMM. 24-13: (4/25/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 24-09**, entitled, ***“Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Captive Insurance Act of 2025; and for other purposes.”***, which was passed by the Senate on April 25 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-14: (4/25/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 24-18, SD1**, entitled, ***“To amend 1 CMC § 2803 regarding the budget submission of the Department of Public Lands; and for other purposes.”***, which was passed by the Senate on April 25, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-15: (4/25/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 24-22**, entitled, ***“To establish mandatory presentation of valid personal photo identification for any debit card or credit card transaction made in person and any check cash exchange or purchase for all business establishments in the Commonwealth.”***, which was passed by the Senate on April 25, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-16: (4/25/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 24-32, SD1**, entitled, ***“To amend 2 CMC § 3551 to change the expenditure authority, management, and control of the solid waste sub-accounts for the First and Second Senatorial Districts; and for other purposes.”***, which was passed by the Senate on April 25, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-17: (5/12/2025) Returning H. B. No. 24-20, entitled, ***“To require conspicuous warning labels be placed on all betel nut products and containers that are imported or sold in the CNMI.”***, which was passed by the Senate without amendments on May 9, 2025. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 24-18: (5/12/2025) Informing the House that the Senate overrode the Governor’s veto of 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.*) on May 9, 2025. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-19: (5/12/2025) Informing the House that the Senate during its 1st Day, Second Special Session rejected the House amendments to S. J. R. NO. 24-02, HD1, entitled, ***“To call for a Joint Session of the Legislature to receive the Governor’s State of the Commonwealth Address.”***. [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 24-20: (5/12/2025) Returning H. B. No. 24-17, entitled, ***“To amend 2 CMC § 2174 to provide the Commonwealth Ports Authority greater autonomy in managing its finances.”***, which was passed by the Senate with amendments on May 9, 2025, in the form of ***H. B. No. 24-17, SD1***. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

SEN. COMM. 24-21: (5/12/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. J. R. NO. 24-03**, entitled, ***“To support the passage of H.R. 2132, which aims to reestablish eligibility for NMI Airports to participate in the Essential Air Service.”***, which was adopted by the Senate on May 9, 2025. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 24-22: (5/12/2025) Transmitting for House action **S. J. R. NO. 24-04**, entitled, ***“To call for a Joint Session of the Legislature to receive the Governor’s State of the Commonwealth Address.”***, which was adopted by the Senate on May 9, 2025. [*For action*]

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 24-29: (5/1/2025) From Representative Thomas John DLC. Manglona informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal matters beginning May 9, 2025—

May 17, 2025 and request to be excused from all legislative sessions, SNILD sessions, committee meetings, and any official functions. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-30: (4/23/2025) From Representative Julie M. A. Ogo informing the Speaker that she will be out of the Commonwealth on official business beginning April 28, 2025—May 2, 2025 and request to be excused from all legislative sessions, committee meetings, and any official functions. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 24-31: (5/7/2025) From Representative Joseph A. Flores informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on personal matters from May 8, 2025 to May 16, 2025 and requests to be excused from all scheduled meetings or sessions. [*For info*]

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH – (None)

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 24-8: (4/30/2025) From the Secretary, Department of Finance (DOF) submitting *FY 2025—Second Quarter Financial Report ending March 31, 2025*. [*For info*]

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 24-32: (4/28/2025) From the Chair, Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) to the Acting Secretary of the Department of Public Lands (DPL) re: *DPL Expenditures related to Managaha Island including expenditures for DPL Managaha Boat (\$250,000); Managaha Staff/Rangers and Managaha Island maintenance expenses./Open Government Act request for Public Records 1 CMC §9901 et. seq.*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-33: (4/30/2025) From the Acting Chair, Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) re: *submitting CPUC's 2026 Budget Submission*. [*For info*]

MISC. COMM. 24-34: (4/21/2025) From the Saipan Humane Society re: *Governor's veto on H. L. B. No. 24-3, D2, as it pertains to the Saipan Humane Society funding allocation*. [*For info*]

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (7)

S. C. R. No. 24-1: Reporting on H. B. No. 24-2, entitled: “To establish a process for the delivery of a State of the Commonwealth Address to the Legislature by the Governor.” *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-2 in its current form.*

S. C. R. No. 24-2: Reporting on H. B. No. 24-14, entitled: “To establish the Office of Financial Integrity and Compliance (OFIC) and the OFIC Oversight Committee to improve the CNMI Government's financial management and reporting.” *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-14 in its current form.*

S. C. R. No. 24-3: Reporting on H. B. No. 24-15, entitled: “To establish public sector employee and public sector employer relations through organized labor within the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.” *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-15 in its current form.*

S. C. R. No. 24-7: Reporting on S. J. R. No. 24-1, entitled: “Supporting the Commonwealth Ports Authority’s request for exemption from Federal Limitations on Scheduled Chinese Air Service to the CNMI and for the Reinstatement of Annex VI under the US Department of State’s “US-China Air Transport Agreement of 2007.” *Your House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs recommends that the House pass in the form of S. J. R. No. 24-1, HD1.*

[illegible]

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:

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on April 24, 2025:

H. B. No. 24-19: To rename the “CNMI Scholarship Office” to the “CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office”. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 and REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for themselves*, Representative Ralph N. Yumul) on April 24, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Education and to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

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. Introduced 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) on April 24, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar. [*Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 4/24/2025*]

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. Introduced by REP. DENITA KAIPAT YANGETMAI of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on April 24, 2025; subsequently moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

H. B. No. 24-22: To repeal and reenact the Justice Center Fund Revolving Account. Introduced by REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on April 24, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

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. Introduced by REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) on April 24, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

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. Introduced 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) on April 24, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. [*Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 4/24/2025*]

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. Introduced by REP. DANIEL I. AQUINO JR. of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and Marissa R. Flores; Roy C.A. Ada, Joseph A. Flores, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, and Elias J.M. Rangamar) on April 24, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. No. 24-26: To amend the crime of child abuse. Introduced by REP. MALCOLM J. OMAR of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*) on April 24, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. No. 24-27: To establish an excise tax for betelnut/areca nut and lime mix/*afok*/or *bweesch*. Introduced 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*) on April 24, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means and to the House

Committee on Health and Welfare. . *[Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 4/24/2025]*

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. Introduced by REP. PATRICK H. SAN NICOLAS of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on April 24, 2025.

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. Introduced by REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO and REP. MALCOLM J. OMAR of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for themselves*) on April 24, 2025.

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. Introduced by REP. ELIAS J. M. RANGAMAR of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and Edmund S. Villagomez; Roy C.A. Ada, Vincent R. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Roman C. Benavente, Angelo A. Camacho, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa R. Flores, Julie M. A. Ogo, Malcolm J. Omar, Raymond U. Palacios, Patrick H. San Nicolas, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on April 24, 2025; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.