



**Senator Dennis James C. Mendiola**  
**Senate President**  
Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature


**MEMORANDUM**

**SP 24-045**

Date: June 16, 2025

To: All Members of the Senate

From: President of the Senate

  
Senator Dennis C. Mendiola

Subject: 1<sup>st</sup> Day, Third Special Senate Session – 2025

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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 1st Day, Third Special Senate Session is scheduled for ***Monday, June 23, 2025 at 1:30 p.m., in the Senate Chamber, Capitol Hill, Saipan.***

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  
Marianas Variety  
Marianas Press  
NMI News Service

OFFICE OF THE  
SENATE CLERK

Signed By: 

Date: 6/16 Time: 1:50 pm

Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill  
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Tel. (670) 664-8807/9 ♦ Email: sen.dmendiola@gmail.com



*The Senate*  
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
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June 20, 2025

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:** 1<sup>st</sup> Day, Third Special Session - 2025  
**DATE AND TIME:** Monday, June 23, 2025 @ 1:30 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Senate Chamber

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  
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JUNE 20, 2025

***THE SENATE***  
**TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**  
**THIRD SPECIAL SENATE SESSION - 2025**

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
1 <sup>ST</sup> Day	Monday, June 23, 2025	1:30 p.m.
SENATE CHAMBER - 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. 24-05](#) - 1<sup>st</sup> Day, First Special Session – 04/25/25
2. [SJ No. 24-06](#) - 1<sup>st</sup> Day, Second Special Session – 05/09/25

**D. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:**

1. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-41](#): Apr. 21. 2025 – Response to Speaker Edmund Villagomes regarding the delay of the CNMI-G Electronic Travel Authorization (CNMI-G ETA).
2. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-42](#): May 07. 2025 – Withdrawing the nomination of Mr. Charles Cepeda to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Free Trade Zone Authority Board of Directors, representing the private sector.
3. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-43](#): May 19, 2025 – S.L.B. No. 24-01, D1 - To amend TLL 21-09 to provide for regulatorily compliant internet gaming; to authorize the establishment of the Tinian Stable Token; and for other purposes, becomes ***TINIAN LOCAL LAW NO. 23-03***.
4. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-44](#): May 30, 2024 – Withdrawing the nomination of Mr. David Burger, Mr. Erick Van Der Maas, Mr. Joseph S. Rios, Mr. Sixto Igisomar, Ms. Remedio

C. Mafnas and Mr. Pedro Dela Cruz to serve as members of the Commonwealth Free Trade Zone Authority Board of Directors.

5. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-45](#): May 30, 2024 – Executive Order No. 2025-002 – Transfer of authority for supervision of casino gaming from the Commonwealth Casino Commission to the Commonwealth Lottery Commission.
6. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-46](#): Jun. 05, 2025 – Signed into law 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, became **PUBLIC LAW NO. 24-02**.
7. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-47](#): June 06, 2025 – Signed into local law, H.L.B. No. 24-7, S1 – To appropriate \$84,000.00 from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; to re-appropriate \$41,239.31 fund balances from TLL 20-06, TLL 20-09, TLL 20-23-02, and TLL 23-11; and for other purposes, becomes **TINIAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-04**.
8. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-48](#): June 12, 2025 – Signed into law S.B. No. 24-09 – Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Captive Insurance Act of 2025; and for other purposes, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 24-03**.

**E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY:**

1. [Jud. Comm. No. 24-02](#): June 03, 2025 – Proposed amendments to the Rules of Admission for next generation Bar Examination. *[Deadline: 60 days after submission]*

**F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPT.:**

(NONE)

**G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE:**

1. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-18](#): Mar. 21, 2025 – Referral of House Bill No. 24-18 to Ways & Means Committee.
2. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-19](#): May 16, 2025 – **Rejected** the Senate amendments to [H.B. No. 24-17, SD1](#) - To amend 2 CMC §2174 to provide the Commonwealth Ports Authority greater autonomy in managing its finances and also appointment of House conferees.
3. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-20](#): May 16, 2025 – Returning without amendments S.J.R. No. 24-04 – To call for a Joint Session of the Legislature to receive the Governor’s State of the Commonwealth Address. **[FOR INFO – GOING TO GOVERNOR]**

4. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-21](#): May 16, 2025 – Returning without amendments S.B. No. 24-09 – Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Captive Insurance Act of 2025; and for other purposes. *[FOR INFO – GOING TO GOVERNOR]*
5. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-22](#): May 16, 2025 – Informing the Senate that the House of Representatives *overrode* the Governor’s veto of S.L.B. No. 24-01, D1 – To amend the TLL 21-09 to provide for regulatorily compliant internet gaming; to authorize the establishment of the Tinian Stable Token; and for other purposes. *[FOR INFO]*
6. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-23](#): May 16, 2025 - Informing the Senate that the House of Representatives *failed to override* the Governor’s veto of H.L.B. No. 24-03, D2 – To appropriate revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to PL 20-59. *[FOR INFO]*
7. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-24](#): May 19, 2025 – Returning with amendments **S.J.R. No. 24-01, HD1** – Supporting the Commonwealth Ports Authority’s request for exemption from Federal Limitations on Scheduled Chinese Air Service to the CNMI, urging the Reinstatement of Annex VI under the U.S.-China Air Transport Agreement of 2007, and urging the full and immediate implementation of the CNMI Economic Vitality and Security Travel Authorization Program (EVS-TAP). *[FOR SENATE ACTION ON S.J.R. NO. 24-01, HD1]*
8. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-25](#): May 19, 2025 - Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. No. 24-1, HS1** – To amend provisions in Title 6, Chapter 3, Sexual Offenses, Article 1. General Provisions, relating to sexual abuse/assault of minors.
9. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-26](#): May 19, 2025 - Transmitting for Senate action **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.
10. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-27](#): May 19, 2025 - Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. No. 24-14** - 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.
11. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-28](#): May 19, 2025 - Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. No. 24-15**- To establish public sector employee and public sector employer relations through organized labor within the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.
12. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-29](#): May 19, 2025 - Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. No. 24-19**- To rename the “CNMI Scholarship Office” to the “CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office.”

13. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-30](#): May 19, 2025 - Transmitting for Senate action **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.
14. [Hse. Comm. No. 24-31](#): May 19, 2025 - Transmitting for Senate action **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.

#### H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:

1. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-60](#): Apr. 24, 2025 – Joint courtesy visit by Peace Corps Volunteers – April 28, 2025 at 2 p.m.
2. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-61](#): Apr. 25, 2025 – Referrals of SB 24-11 and HBs to FA, PUTC and JGL Committees.
3. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-62](#): Apr. 28, 2025 – Special Committee on CNMI Economic Recovery.
4. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-63](#): May 09, 2025 – Senator Magofna’s off-island notice from May 09 – 20, 2025.
5. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-64](#): May 14, 2025 – Referral to EAGI Committee the withdrawal of Mr. Charles Cepeda nominated to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Free Trade Zone Authority Board of Directors.
6. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-65](#): May 19, 2025 – Senate President on behalf of the Senate of the Twenty-Fourth Commonwealth Legislature, extending their congratulations to Mr. Angel A. Demapan on his appointment as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular & International Affairs at the U.S. Dept. of Interior.
7. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-66](#): May 19, 2025 – Appointment of Senate conferees to H.B. No. 24-17, SD1 - To amend 2 CMC § 2174 to provide the Commonwealth Ports Authority greater autonomy in managing its finances.
8. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-67](#): May 19, 2025 – Joint Session to receive the Governor’s State of the Commonwealth Address (SOCA).
9. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-68](#): May 20, 2025 – Appointment of an additional EAGI Committee member, Senator Jude U. Hofschneider.
10. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-69](#): May 21, 2025 – Senator Celina Babauta’s off-island notice effective May 22, 2025.

11. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-70](#): May 27, 2025 – Appointment of an additional JGL Committee member, Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro.
12. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-71](#): May 29, 2025 –Senator Hofschneider’s off-island notice and delegation of authority from May 30, 2025 to June 05, 2025.
13. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-72](#): May 29, 2025 – Referrals of HBs to JGL, PUTC and FA Committees.
14. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-73](#): May 29, 2025 –Administrative Leave to the Legislature 05/30/25.
15. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-74](#): June 02, 2025 – Referral to EAGI Committee the withdrawal of nominations to serve as members of the Commonwealth Free Trade Zone Authority.
16. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-75](#): June 03, 2025 – Referrals of SBs to PUTC, HWP and JGL Committees. [24-34 to 37].
17. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-76](#): June 03, 2025 – Conference Committee meeting on H.B. No. 24-17, SD1 - To amend 2 CMC §2174 to provide CPA greater autonomy in managing its finances. [June 10, 2025 at 10 a.m.]
18. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-77](#): June 06, 2025 – Senator Hofschneider off-island notice extension June 09 through June 17, 2025.
19. [Sen. Comm. No. 24-78](#): June 06, 2025 – Referral to JGL Judiciary Comm. No. 24-02 the Proposed amendments to the Rules of Admission for the next generation Bar Exam. *[See Jud. Comm. No. 24-02]*

**I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CNMI DELEGATE: (NONE)**

**J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. [Gov. Msg. No. 24-40](#): Apr. 07, 2025 – Signed into law and disapproved parts of H.L.B. No. 24-03, D2 – To appropriate revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to PL 20-59, becomes ***SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-02***.

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

1. [Senate Legislative Initiative No. 24-01](#): To propose a constitutional amendment to Article XI, Section 6 of the NMI Constitution. **[SEN. DENNIS C. MENDIOLA – 06/03/25]**



2. [Senate Commemorative Resolution No. 24-02](#): To honor the legacy of fishermen and fisherwomen who have shared their indigenous and traditional knowledge of fishing practices in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands during the First Annual Fishers Recognition Week. [SEN. CORINA L. MAGOFNA – 05/29/25]
3. [Senate Resolution No. 24-05](#): To recognize and congratulate Stephanie Espartero Diaz for her remarkable educational achievements and for proudly representing the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in academic science-related programs. [SEN. JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER – 06/20/25]

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

**M. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

1. [Standing Committee Report No. 24-08](#): From the Committee on Health, Welfare and Programs reporting on S.B. No. 24-04 – To advance indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian language education in the CNMI. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
2. [Standing Committee Report No. 24-09](#): From the Committee on Health, Welfare and Programs reporting on S.B. No. 24-31 – To ensure food safety and support small food entrepreneurs sell low-risk, non-perishable foods and home-cooked meals, and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of SD1]*
3. [Standing Committee Report No. 24-10](#): From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on S.B. No. 24-11 – To regulate off-road vehicles including ATVs, SxS, and UTVs; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of SD1]*
4. [Standing Committee Report No. 24-11](#): From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on S.B. No. 24-13 – To enact a whistleblower protection provision for Commonwealth government employees reporting on prohibited personnel practices; to provide whistleblower rewards for individuals who report underpayments of taxes; to clarify the mechanism for the payment of rewards for disclosures leading to the recovery of public funds; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of SD1]*
5. [Standing Committee Report No. 24-12](#): From the Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law reporting on S.B. No. 24-28 – To amend 6 CMC 3113; to establish disorderly conduct and public intoxication crimes; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of SD1]*
6. [Standing Committee Report No. 24-13](#): From the Committee on Resources, Economic Development, and Workforce reporting on S.B. No. 24-08 – To amend certain provisions



of the CNMI Recycling Act of 1999 to establish the Department of Public Works as its proper authority; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*

7. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-14:** From the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive Appointment of **Mr. Sixto Kaipat Igisomar** to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Public Lands.
8. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-15:** From the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive Appointment of **Mr. Joseph C. Guerrero** to serve as a member of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), representing the Third Senatorial District.

**N. REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:**

1. [Conf. Committee Report No. 24-01](#): From the Conference Committee reporting on H.B. No. 24-17, SD1 – To amend 2 CMC § 2174 to provide the Commonwealth Ports Authority greater autonomy in managing its finances. *[Recommends passage in the form of SD1, CCS1]*

**O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:**

1. [Senate Commemorative Resolution No. 24-02](#)
2. [S.R. No. 24-05](#)

**P. BILL CALENDAR:**

**FINAL READING**

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 24-04</u></a> (See SCRep. 24-08)	To advance indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian language education in the CNMI.
<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 24-31, SD1</u></a> (See SCRep. 24-09)	To ensure food safety and support small food entrepreneurs sell non-time/temperature control (TCS) for safety foods and home-cooked meals; and for other purposes.

<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 24-11, SD1</u></a> (See SCRep. 24-10)	To regulate off-road vehicles including ATVs, SxS, and UTVs; and for other purposes.
<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 24-13, SD1</u></a> (See SCRep. 24-11)	To enact a whistleblower protection provision for Commonwealth government and autonomous agency employees reporting on prohibited personnel practices; to provide whistleblower rewards for individuals who report underpayments of taxes; to clarify the mechanism for the payment of rewards for disclosures leading to the recovery of public funds; and for other purposes.
<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 24-28, SD1</u></a> (See SCRep. 24-12)	To amend 6 CMC § 3113; to establish disorderly conduct and public intoxication crimes; and for other purposes.
<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 24-08</u></a> (See SCRep. 24-13)	To amend certain provisions of the CNMI Recycling Act of 1999 to establish the Department of Public Works as its proper authority; and for other purposes.

**Q. PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS;**

1. [Misc. Comm. No. 24-34](#): Apr. 21, 2025 – Saipan Humane Society regarding the vetoed H.L.B. No. 24-3, Section 2-7K.

**NOTE: MC 24-35, 36 and 37 were reported out on May 09, 2025 session.**

2. [Misc. Comm. No. 24-38](#): Apr. 03, 2025 – NM Professional Firefighters Union to the CPA regarding CBA negotiations.
3. [Misc. Comm. No. 24-39](#): Apr. 07, 2025 – Edwin Raymond Quitugua re: Public land leases A&M Corporation.
4. [Misc. Comm. No. 24-40](#): May 20, 2025 – Certified copy of TALD Resolution No. 24-03-Casey Cassandra Castro Cruz.
5. [Misc. Comm. No. 24-41](#): June 11, 2025 – Certified copy of RLD Commemorative Resolution No. 24-01 – Late Oscar Mendiola.

6. [Misc. Comm. No. 24-42](#): June 12, 2025 – Commonwealth Casino Commission regarding Executive Order No. 2025-002 – To abolish the CCC and transfer all of its functions and responsibilities to the CNMI Lottery Commission.

R. ANNOUNCEMENTS; and

S. ADJOURNMENT.

APPEARANCE OF SENATE LOCAL BILLS

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>

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