



JANUARY 13, 2026

THE SENATE
TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
THIRD REGULAR SENATE SESSION - 2026

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
1 st Day	Friday, January 16, 2026	1:00 p.m.
Senate Chamber – Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill – 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. 24-18** - 9th Day, Second Regular – 12/22/25
2. **SJ No. 24-19** - 1st Emergency Session – 12/31/25

D. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:

1. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-194:** Dec. 19, 2025 – Resume, statement of financial interest, police clearance and drug test results of Mr. Mark O. Rabauliman to serve on the Board of Directors for the Commonwealth Economic Incentive Authority representing the Public Sector/Carolinian Community.
2. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-195:** Dec. 23, 2025 – Signed into law H.B. No. 24-75, entitled “To authorize the continued payment of employer premiums for the Group Health & Life Insurance (GHLI) Program by permitting expenditure of \$3,747,585.00 recently identified by the Governor that shall be appropriated by the Legislature for FY 2026, becomes ***PUBLIC LAW NO. 24-19.***
3. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-196:** Dec. 23, 2025 – Signed into law and line-item vetoed parts of H.B. No. 24-80 HS1, entitled “To Repeal and Re-Enact Public Law 24-14 to further Define and Identify General Revenues and approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9 (a) of the

CNMI Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2026 and make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 2026; and for other purposes, becomes ***PUBLIC LAW NO. 24-20***.

4. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-197:** Dec. 29, 2025 – Signed into local law S.L.B. No. 24-02, entitled – To rename part of Routes 30 and Route 33 “Governor Arnold I. Palacios Memorial Highway” in honor of the former late Governor Arnold I. Palacios; and for other purposes, becomes ***SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-16***.
5. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-198:** Dec. 29, 2025 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No. 24-29, entitled – To rename the “Smiling Cove Marina” the “Diego T. Benavente Smiling Cove Marina” in honor of former Legislator and former Lieutenant Governor Diego Tenorio Benavente, becomes ***SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-17***.
6. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-199:** Dec. 31, 2025 – FY 2005 Annual Report.
7. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-200:** Dec. 30, 2025 – Certification of annual salary in excess of \$65,175.00 to Ms. Emily Howell Thomsen Assistant Public Defender to receive \$75,000.00 per annum.
8. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-201:** Dec. 30, 2025 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No. 24-34, D1 – To establish the “Saipan Economic Incentive District” within the Third Senatorial District, and to authorize the Commonwealth Economic Incentive Authority and other relevant agencies to administer and regulate investment activities within the designated district, becomes ***SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-18***.
9. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-202:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Signed into law H.B. No. 24-82, HD1 - To amend Section 704(k) of Public Law 24-20 to prevent disruption or delay of allotments, payments, or expenditures of the Legislative Branch by adding a transition period of up to 273 days for the implementation of the Legislature’s Finance Department; and for other purposes, becomes ***PUBLIC LAW NO. 24-21***.
10. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-203:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Resume, statement of financial interest, police clearance and drug test results of Ms. Janet U. Maratita to serve as a member of the NMHC Board of Directors representing the Third Senatorial District.
11. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-204:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Resume, statement of financial interest, police clearance and drug test results of Mr. Michael N. Evangelista to serve as a member of the NMC Board of Directors representing the Private Sector/Carolinian Community.
12. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-205:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Resume, statement of financial interest, police clearance and drug test results of Mr. Dave B. Guerrero to serve as a member of the NMC Board of Directors representing the Third Senatorial District/Private Sector.

13. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-206:** Jan. 07, 2026 – Re-nomination of Mr. Raymond M. Muna to serve as a member of the Civil Service Commission representing the Third Senatorial District.
14. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-207:** Jan. 08, 2026 – Signed into law S.B. No. 24-31, SD1 – To ensure food safety and support small food entrepreneurs sell non-time/temperature control (TCS) for safety food and home-cooked meals; and for other purposes, becomes ***PUBLIC LAW NO. 24-22.***
15. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-208:** Jan. 13, 2026 – Request for adding to bill calendar for voting and passage of HB 24-58, 24-62 and 24-32.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY: (NONE)

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPT.: (NONE)

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE:

1. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-109:** Dec. 29, 2025 – Returning without amendments S.B. No. 24-04 – To advance indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian language education in the CNMI. ***[FOR INFO. - GOING TO GOV.]***
2. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-110:** Dec. 29, 2025 – Transmitting for Senate action **H.B. No. 24-59, HD1** – To enact the “CNMI Fair Billing Practices Act” to establish clear and fair standards for back billing practices in the CNMI to protect consumers while allowing service providers to recover unpaid amounts lawfully due; and for other purposes.
3. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-111:** Dec. 29, 2025 – ***Rejected H.B. No. 24-74, SS2*** – To appropriate funds derived from trust interest income from the Marianas Public Land Trust. Appointment of House conferees.
4. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-112:** Dec. 30, 2025 – Transmitting for Senate action **H.J.R. No. 24-10** – To honor and congratulate CITADEL Pacific Ltd. (CPL) on the occasion of its 20th Anniversary.

NOTE: HC 24-113 appeared on the First Emergency Session – 12/31/25.

5. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-114:** Jan. 07, 2026 – Certified copy of H.R. No. 24-19 - Commercial Leasing for Outer Continental Shelf Minerals Offshore the CNMI and urge respect for CNMI self-government, indigenous rights, environmental protection, equitable benefit-sharing and lessons of global and pacific History. ***[FOR INFO.]***
6. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-115:** Jan. 07, 2026 – Certified copy of H.R. No. 24-20 – Victorino “Vic” Sablan Cepeda. ***[FOR INFO.]***

7. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-116:** Jan. 07, 2026 – Certified copy of H.R. No. 24-21 – Proactive Resilience Emergency Declaration. *[FOR INFO.]*
8. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-117:** Jan. 07, 2026 – Certified copy of H.R. No. 24-22 – Establishment of mandatory financial literacy education in CNMI public schools. *[FOR INFO.]*
9. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-118:** Jan. 07, 2026 – Certified copy of H.R. No. 24-23 – Mrs. Jaqueline Ayuyu Quitugua. *[FOR INFO.]*

H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:

1. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-179:** Dec. 19, 2025 – Senator Paul Manglona’s off-island notice and delegation of authority beginning 12/22/25 to 1/05/26.
2. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-180:** Dec. 22, 2025 – Revised Holidays Administrative Leave.
3. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-181:** Dec. 22, 2025 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test result of Mr. Mark O. Rabauliman to serve on the Board of Directors for the Commonwealth Economic Incentive Authority.
4. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-182:** Dec. 30, 2025 – Senator Calvo’s off-island notice and delegation of authority beginning 12/31/25 until further notice.
5. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-183:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Appointment of Senate Conferees to **H.B. No. 24-74, SS2** – To appropriate funds derived from trust interest income from the Marianas Public Land Trust. Appointment of House conferees.
6. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-184:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test result of Ms. Janet U. Maratita to serve on the Northern Mariana Housing Corporation Board of Directors representing the Third Senatorial District.
7. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-185:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test result of Mr. Michael N. Evangelista to serve on the Northern Mariana College Board of Regents representing the Private Sector/Carolinian Community.
8. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-186:** Jan. 06, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest and drug test result of Mr. Dave B. Guerrero to serve on the Northern Mariana College Board of Regents representing the Private Sector/Third Senatorial District.

9. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-187:** Jan. 09, 2026 – Senator Babauta’s off-island notice beginning 01/09/26.

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CNMI DELEGATE: (NONE)

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (NONE)

K. PRE-FILED BILLS, INITIATIVES, LOCAL BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS: (NONE)

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

M. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-45:** From the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of **Mr. Matthew B. Stuart IV (P.K.A Vin Armani)** to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority Board of Directors representing the Third Senatorial District.
2. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-46:** From the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of **Ms. Carline B. Sablan** to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Ports Authority Board of Directors representing the Third Senatorial District.
3. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-47:** From the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of **Mr. Juan S. Salas** to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Ports Authority Board of Directors representing the Third Senatorial District.
4. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-48:** From the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of **Mr. Vincent N. Camacho** to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Ports Authority Board of Directors representing the Third Senatorial District and the Carolinian Community.
5. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-49:** From the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations reporting on the Executive appointment of **Mr. James Ushio Miyahara Mendiola, Jr.** to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission representing the Second Senatorial District.

N. REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: (NONE)

O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:

1. S.R. No. 24-11

P. BILL CALENDAR:

FINAL READING

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

Q. PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS;

1. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-69:** Dec. 19, 2025 – Commonwealth Zoning Board re Rezone.
2. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-70:** Dec. 29, 2025 – Legislative Bureau’s request to SOF for transitional implementation period and interim MOU under PL 24-20.
3. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-71:** Dec. 29, 2025 – Legislative Bureau reduction in work hours.
4. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-72:** Jan. 06, 2026 – CHCC updated financial report for the Health Network Program (HNP).

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.