



FEBRUARY 20, 2026

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

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
4 <sup>th</sup> Day	Thursday, February 26, 2026	10:00 a.m.
ROTA MAYOR'S OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, ROTA		

***ORDER OF BUSINESS***

***A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER***

**A. ROLL CALL:**

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**C. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL:**

1. **SJ 24-21** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Day, Third Regular Session – 02/04/26

**D. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:**

1. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-222:** Feb. 10, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, and drug test result of Mr. Oscar Patrick Quitugua nominated to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission, representing the First Senatorial District.
2. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-223:** Feb. 11, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, and drug test result of Judge Joseph James Norita Camacho to serve as the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
3. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-224:** Feb. 11, 2026 – Signed into local law, H.L.B. No. 24-36 - To re-appropriate the remaining fund balance of \$89,217.00 under Saipan Local Law 22-15 (Project Code 3754H) for the maintenance and improvements of Commonwealth parks and recreational facilities in Precinct III and the maintenance and improvements of Garapan Core and the Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road pathway in Precinct III; and for other purposes, becomes ***SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-19.***
4. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-225:** Feb. 11, 2026 – Signed into local law, H.L.B. No. 24-38 - To appropriate the fund remaining balance of \$48,450.33 under Section 2(t)(4) of Saipan

- Local Law 20-26 (Project Code 7190M) for the maintenance, repairs, and improvements of Commonwealth parks and recreational facilities in Precinct IV; and for other purposes, becomes *SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-20*.
5. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-226:** Feb. 11, 2026 – Signed into local law, H.L.B. No. 24-41 - To re-appropriate Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00) allotted under SLL 20-26; and for other purposes, becomes *SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-21*.
  6. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-227:** Feb. 13, 2026 – Assumption of Authority to Lt. Governor Dennis James C. Mendiola as Acting Governor beginning February 15 – 27, 2026.
  7. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-228:** Feb. 13, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, and drug test result of Presiding Judge Roberto Camacho Naraja to serve as the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
  8. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-229:** Feb. 13, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, and drug test result Mr. Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Esq. to serve as the Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
  9. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-230:** Feb. 13, 2026 – Signed into local law, H.L.B. No. 24-45, D1 - To re-appropriate Two Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars (\$256,235.00) from fund balances allotted under SLL 22-01, specifically Business Unit 4963V; and for other purposes, becomes *SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-22*.
  10. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-231:** Feb. 18, 2026 – Withdrawing the appointment of Michi Aldan Viches to serve on the Board of Trustees of NMTI, representing the Second Senatorial District.
  11. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-232:** Feb. 18, 2026 – Re-nomination of Ms. Dina A. Tenorio to serve on the Board of Trustees of Northern Marianas Technical Institute to represent Saipan Business.
  12. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-233:** Feb. 19, 2026 – Drug test results of Mr. Oscar Patrick Quitugua nominated to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission, representing the First Senatorial District.
- E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY: (NONE)**
- F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPT.: (NONE)**

**G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE:**

1. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-125:** Feb. 11, 2026 – Informing the Senate the approval of Jud. Br. Comm. No. 24-8 – The Proposed Amendments to the NMI Rules of Attorney Discipline and Procedure.
2. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-126:** Feb. 17, 2026 – Certified copy of H.R. No. 24-24 – Requesting CUC to under a comprehensive, independent, third-party audit requiring CPUC.
3. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-127:** Feb. 20, 2026 – Certified copy of H.R. No. 24-10 – CITADEL Pacific Ltd. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:**

1. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-195:** Feb. 10, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest, and drug test receipt of Mr. Oscar Patrick Quitugua nominated to serve as a member of PUC, representing the First Senatorial District.
2. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-196:** Feb. 11, 2026 – Senator Paul Manglona’s off-island notice extension from 02/11/26 to 02/13/26.
3. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-197:** Feb. 12, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest, and drug test result of Judge Joseph James Norita Camacho nominated to serve as the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
4. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-198:** Feb. 12, 2026 – Senator Jude Hofschneider’s off-island notice and delegation of authority from 02/14/26 to 02/22/26.
5. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-199:** Feb. 13, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest, and drug test result of Mr. Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Esq. nominated to serve as the Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
6. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-200:** Feb. 13, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, criminal record, statement of financial interest, and drug test result of Presiding Judge Roberto Camacho Naraja nominated to serve as the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
7. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-201:** Feb. 18, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee withdrawal of Michi Aldan Viches appointment to serve as a member of the NMTI Board of Trustees, representing the Second Senatorial District.

8. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-202:** Feb. 18, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee the re-nomination of Ms. Dina A. Tenorio to serve as a member of the NMTI Board of Trustees, representing Saipan Business.
9. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-203:** Feb. 19, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee drug test result of Mr. Oscar Patrick Quitugua nominated to serve as a member of PUC, representing the First Senatorial District.

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

**J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-210:** Jan. 21, 2026 – Vetoed **S.B. No. 24-04** – To advance indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian language education in the CNMI. *[Deadline: 03/20/26]*
2. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-196:** Dec. 23, 2025 – Signed into law and line-item vetoed parts of **H.B. No. 24-80 HSI**, 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**.

**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. 24-69:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on **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. *[Recommends passage in its original form]*
2. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-70:** From the Committee on Fiscal Affairs reporting on **S.B. No. 24-25** – To amend 4 CMC §10306(a)(4) to allow the board of directors to

authorize the executive director to review and grant loan or loan guarantee applications exceeding \$25,000.00 per applicant; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of S.B. No. 24-25, Senate Draft 1]*

3. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-71:** From the Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications reporting on *H.B. No. 24-49* - To establish the CNMI Next/Gen 911 Telephone Communications System within the CNMI; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in its original form]*
  
4. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-72:** From the Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications reporting on *H.J.R. No. 24-11* - Directing the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and all relevant Commonwealth government agencies and public corporations to expedite planning, permitting, and deployment of viable renewable energy, storage, and resilience projects — and to coordinate energy-security and infrastructure-resilience strategies — in light of the accelerated phase-out of federal clean-energy incentives under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. *[Recommends adoption in its original form]*

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

**O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:**

1. **H.J.R. No. 24-11 (See SCR No. 24-72)**

**P. BILL CALENDAR:**

**FINAL READING**

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
<p><b>S.B. No. 24-25, SD1</b>  (See SCRep. No. 24-70)</p>	<p>To amend 4 CMC §10306(a)(4) to allow the board of directors to authorize the executive director to review and grant loan or loan guarantee applications exceeding \$25,000.00 per applicant; and for other purposes.</p>
<p><b>S.B. No. 24-40</b>  (See SCRep. No. 24-53)</p>	<p>To amend 9 CMC §3114 by requiring the Department of Public Safety’s Rules &amp; Regulations regarding Commercial vehicles be consistent with those of the United States Department of Transportation’s Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; and for other purposes.</p>

<p><b>H.B. No. 24-15, SS1</b> <b>(See SCRep. No. 24-67)</b></p>	<p>To establish public sector employee and public sector employer relations through organized labor within the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.</p>
<p><b>H.B. No. 24-23</b> <b>(See SCRep. No. 24-69)</b></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>H.B. No. 24-30, SD1</b> <b>(See SCRep. No. 24-68)</b></p>	<p>To appropriate funds from Accounts 1501B and 1501S to support the operational and personnel needs of the CNMI Cannabis Commission and to direct the Secretary of Finance to establish and maintain a separate sub-account within the Cannabis Tax Account for the purpose of segregating and reserving PSS’s designated share, and for other purposes.</p>
<p><b>H.B. No. 24-33</b> <b>(See SCRep. No. 24-58)</b></p>	<p>To statutorily define the scope of the Commonwealth’s annual General Revenues within the meaning of Article XV, Section 1(e) of the NMI Constitution.</p>
<p><b>H.B. No. 24-49</b> <b>(See SCRep. No. 24-71)</b></p>	<p>To establish the CNMI Next/Gen 911 Telephone Communications System within the CNMI; and for other purposes.</p>

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

1. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-81:** Feb. 11, 2026 – Commissioner Deleon Guerrero comments regarding H.B. No. 24-15, SS1 - To establish public sector employee and public sector employer relations through organized labor within the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.

**R. ANNOUNCEMENTS; and**

**S. ADJOURNMENT.**

APPEARANCE OF SENATE LOCAL BILLS

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.L.B. No. 24-04	<p>To define and authorize the use of abandoned investigative deposits held by the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC); to establish procedures for notice, claims, and final disposition of such deposits; to authorize the appropriation of abandoned deposits to pay outstanding regulatory fees, assessments, penalties, and taxes owed to the Commission; and for other purposes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>3<sup>RD</sup> Appearance</i></p>

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