



Karl R. King-Nabors
Senate President
Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 26, 2026

To: All Members of the Senate

From: President of the Senate



Senator Karl R. King-Nabors

Subject: 2nd Day, Fourth Regular Session – 2026

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 2nd Day, Fourth Regular Senate Session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2026 at 2:30 p.m., in the Senate Chamber – Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, 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
NMI News Service
Marianas Variety



The Senate
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
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September 26, 2026

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: 2nd Day, Fourth Senate Session - 2026
DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 @ 2:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Senate Chamber – Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building,
Capitol Hill, Saipan

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
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September 26, 2026

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

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
2nd Day	Wednesday, September 30, 2026	2:30 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. 24-31** - 1st Day, Eighth Special Session, 08/14/26.
2. **SJ No. 24-32** - 1st Day, Fourth Regular Session, 09/04/26.

D. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:

1. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-312:** Aug. 13, 2026 – Executive Order No. 2026-015 – Transfer of NMI Museum to Historic Preservation Office. **[Deadline: 10/12/26]**
2. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-313:** Aug. 18, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Mr. Warren F. Villagomez to serve on the MVA Board of Directors, representing the Second Senatorial District.
3. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-314:** Aug. 19, 2026 – Certification of annual salary in excess of \$65,175 to Mr. Daniel Blake Johnson, AAG to receive \$75,000.00 per annum.
4. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-315:** Aug. 19, 2026 – Signed into law S.B. No. 24-38 - To rename the DPS Boating Safety Building to the “Jose Camacho Sablan Boating Safety Station” in recognition of his contributions and dedication to ensuring the safety of the public in the surrounding waters of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, becomes ***PUBLIC LAW O. 24-37.***

5. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-316:** Aug. 20, 2026 – Nomination of Mr. Bernard P. Villagomez to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission representing the Third Senatorial District.
6. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-317:** Aug. 20, 2026 – Certification of annual salary in excess of \$65,175 to Mr. Francisco C. Villagomez Coral Reef Initiative Program DLNR to receive \$68,000.00 per annum.
7. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-318:** Aug. 20, 2026 – Letter to Ms. Joyce Tang, Trustee, NMI Settlement Fund in support of S.R. No. 24-18 to waive alleged overpayments of past retirement benefits to certain retirees.
8. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-319:** Aug. 20, 2026 – Executive Order No. 2026-016 – Brown Tree snake Interdiction.
9. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-320:** Aug. 21, 2026 – Certification of annual salary in excess of \$65,175 to Ms. Hyun Jae Lee, AAG to receive \$100,000.00 per annum.
10. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-321:** Aug. 27, 2026 – Signed into law H.B. No. 24-10 – To establish a change of name legal procedure in the CNMI, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 24-38**.
11. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-322:** Aug. 28, 2026 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No. 24-62, D1 – To appropriate \$1,571,460.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to PL 20-59; and for other purposes, becomes **SAIPAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-31**.
12. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-323:** Aug. 28, 2026 – Requesting approval to fund essential DEQ Litter Control Officer position.
13. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-324:** Aug. 28, 2026 – Requesting approval for CNMI Office of Veteran's Affairs hiring Grounds Maintenance position.
14. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-325:** Aug. 30, 2026 – EO No. 2026-017 – Continued State of Significant Emergency for CNMI – Super Typhoon Sinlaku & Super Typhoon Bavi.
15. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-326:** Sept. 03, 2026 – Resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest, drug test result of Mr. Bernard P. Villagomez to serve on the CPUC, representing the Third Senatorial District.
16. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-327:** Sept. 04, 2026 – Urging the Senate to pass H.B. No. 24-57 – To re-establish a government Liability Cap.
17. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-328:** Sept. 09, 2026 – Requesting approval of the Legislature by Joint Resolution to fill vacant positions with the Division of Parks & Recreations and Roads & Grounds.

18. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-329:** Sept. 09, 2026 – *Vetoed* H.B. No. 24-43, HD1 – To create a New Criminal Offense for Desecration, Theft, or Attempted Sale of Stolen Memorials, Historical or Cultural Sites, and Property. *[Deadline: 11/08/26]*
19. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-330:** Sept. 09, 2026 – Signed into local law H.L.B. No. 24-61, D1 – To appropriate Forty-two thousand dollars (\$42,000.00) from revenues collected from poker fees in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes, becomes ***TINIAN LOCAL LAW NO. 24-12.***
20. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-331:** Sept. 09, 2026 – EO No. 2026-018 – Transfer of the Invasive Species Program from DLNR to SOF, Division of Customs & Biosecurity. *[Deadline:*
21. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-332:** Sept. 11, 2026 – Nomination of Mr. Aniceto T. Ogumoro to serve as the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.
22. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-333:** Sept. 14, 2026 – Executive Order No. 2026-019 – Submitting to the voters for the November 2026 general election the question, “Shall there be a constitutional convention to propose amendments to the Constitution?”
23. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-334:** Sept. 14, 2026 - Withdrawing the renomination of Ms. Diana B. Hocog to serve as a member of the CNMI Scholarship Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
24. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-335:** Sept. 14, 2026 - Withdrawing the renomination of Mr. Janry Atalig Santos to serve as a member of the MVA Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
25. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-336:** Sept. 14, 2026 -- Withdrawing the nomination of Mr. Aniceto T. Ogumoro to serve as the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety and rescinding attempt to terminate Commissioner Anthony I. Macaranas.
26. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-337:** Sept. 16, 2026 – Nomination of Ms. Natalia M. Sablan to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Finance.
27. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-338:** Sept. 18, 2026 - Renomination of Mr. Janry Atalig Santos to serve as a member of the MVA Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
28. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-339:** Sept. 18, 2026 - Renomination of Ms. Diana B. Hocog to serve as a member of the CNMI Scholarship Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
29. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-340:** Sept. 18, 2026 – Withdrawing the nomination of Ms. Natalia M. Sablan to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Finance.

30. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-341:** Sept. 23, 2026 – Executive Order No. 2026-020 – Termination of Price Freeze as to Saipan and Tinian and Continuation of Freeze as to Rota.
31. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-342:** Sept. 23, 2026 – *Vetoed* H.B. No. 24-40 – To amend Title 4 of the Commonwealth Code to clarify the application of business registration, licensing, and tax laws to foreign corporations engaged in land development, infrastructure development, or construction activities in the Commonwealth, including those related to development projects performed under or in connection with contracts, subcontracts, or agreements with the United States. *[Deadline: 11/22/26]*
32. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-343:** Sept. 23, 2026 – Office of the Lt. Governor regarding their request for Joint Resolution – Special Assistant to the Lt. Governor.
33. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-344:** Sept. 24, 2026 – Signed into law H.B. No. 24-30, SD1 - 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, becomes **PUBLIC LAW O. 24-39**.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY: (NONE)

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

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE:

1. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-181:** Sept. 23, 2026 – Accepted the Senate amendments to H.B. No. 24-30, SD1 - 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. *[FOR INFO.]*
2. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-182:** Sept. 24, 2026 – Accepted the Senate amendments to H.C.R. No. 24-4, SD1 - To approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as identified under Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution, as amended, and Title 1, Division 7, of the Commonwealth Code, for Fiscal Year 2027, beginning October 1, 2026, and ending on September 30, 2027. *[FOR INFO.]*
3. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-183:** Sept. 25, 2026 – Adopted Conference Committee Report No. 24-6 on H.B. No. 24-107, HD1, SD1, CCS1 - To authorize the Commonwealth Utilities

Corporation to obtain emergency financing for utility restoration, stabilization, and fuel procurement in response to Super Typhoons Sinlaku and Bavi and related fuel supply disruptions; and for other purposes. **[FOR INFO.]**

4. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-184:** Sept. 25, 2026 – Transmitting for Senate action ***H.J.R. No. 24-18*** – To approve the Governor’s request to exempt and fill essential, vacant personnel positions within the Department of Corrections, pursuant to PL 24-20, Section 602(a).
5. **Hse. Comm. No. 24-185:** Sept. 25, 2026 – Transmitting for Senate action ***H.J.R. No. 24-19*** – To approve the Governor’s request to exempt and fill a critical vacant personnel position within the Office of the Governor, pursuant to PL 24-20, Section 602(a).

H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:

1. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-264:** Sept. 03, 2026 – Referral to EAGI Committee resume, police clearance, statement of financial interest and drug test result of Mr. Bernard P. Villagomez appointed to serve as a member of CPUC representing the Third Senatorial District.
2. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-265:** Sept. 08, 2026 – Senator Hofschneider’s off-island notice, 9/9/26 to 9/21/26.
3. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-266:** Sept. 11, 2026 – Senator Castro’s off-island notice, 9/11/26 to 9/18/26.
4. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-267:** Sept. 14, 2026 – Referral to EAGI the withdrawal of Mr. Janry Atalig Santos nomination to serve as a member of MVA Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
5. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-268:** Sept. 14, 2026 – Referral to EAGI the withdrawal of Ms. Diana B. Hocog nomination to serve as a member of the CNMI Board of Directors, representing the First Senatorial District.
6. **Sen. Comm. No. 24-269:** Sept. 23, 2026 – Referral to FA Committee H.B. No. 24-108, HS1 – FY 2027 CNMI Budget.

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CNMI DELEGATE: (NONE)

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Gov. Msg. No. 24-309:** August 5, 2026 – ***Vetoed*** S.L.B. No. 24-04 – 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. *[Deadline: 10/04/26]*

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

1. **Sen. Commemorative Resolution No. 24-11** - To honor and commemorate the life, distinguished public service, and enduring contributions of the late Honorable Karl Tudela Reyes to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. **[SEN. MANNY GREGORY T. CASTRO – 09/11/26]**
2. **Sen. Commemorative Resolution No. 24-12** - To commend and congratulate Past International Director Dato' Yeow Wah Chin of Lions Clubs International and current Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) Area Leader, for his exemplary leadership, distinguished legal career, and outstanding humanitarian service to Lions Clubs International and the global community including the CNMI. **[SEN. MANNY GREGORY T. CASTRO – 09/11/26]**
3. **Senate Bill No. 24-67**: To amend CNMI law relating to price freezes and price gouging during states of emergency and disaster; to authorize designated law enforcement and regulatory agencies to assist in the inspection, investigation, and enforcement of consumer protection and price freeze laws; and for other purposes. **[SEN. FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ – 09/23/26]**

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

M. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-85**: From the Judiciary, Government and Law Committee reporting on *H.B. No. 24-57* –To establish a Government Liability Cap. *[Recommends passage in the form of H.B. No. 24-57, Senate Draft 1]*
2. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-86**: From the Judiciary, Government and Law Committee reporting on *S.B. No. 24-06* –To authorize CNMI Department of Corrections to pay inmates and establish work programs. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*
3. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-91**: From the Resources, Economic Development, and Workforce Committee reporting on *S.B. No. 24-52* – Authorizing the Commonwealth

Economic Development Authority to utilize its preferred dividend funds to carry out the mandates of Public Law 22-01. *[Recommends passage in its current form]*

4. **Standing Committee Report No. 24-97:** From the Resources, Economic Development, and Workforce Committee reporting on *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 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to protect consumers while allowing service providers to recover unpaid amounts lawfully due; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of H.B. No. 24-59 HD1, Senate Draft 1]*

N. REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

1. **Conference Committee Report No. 24-06:** Conference Committee reporting on H.B. No. 24-107, *HD1, SD1* - To authorize the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to obtain emergency financing for utility restoration, stabilization, and fuel procurement in response to Super Typhoons Sinlaku and Bavi and related fuel supply disruptions; and for other purposes. *[Recommends passage in the form of H.B. No. 24-107, HD1, SD1, CCSI]*

O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:

1. **Sen. Commemorative Resolution No. 24-11**
2. **Sen. Commemorative Resolution No. 24-12**

P. BILL CALENDAR:

FINAL READING

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.B. No. 24-06 (See SCRep. No. 24-86)	To authorize CNMI Department of Corrections to pay inmates and establish work programs.
S.B. No. 24-52 (See SCRep. No. 24-91)	Authorizing the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority to utilize its preferred dividend funds to carry out the mandates of Public Law 22-01.
S.B. No. 25-62	To enact the “CNMI Dignified Aging and Long-Term Care Act of 2026”; to establish a comprehensive statutory and regulatory framework for assisted living facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and Programs of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE); to regulate

	licensing, operations, and oversight of long-term care facilities; and for other purposes.; and for other purposes.
H.B. 24-39 (See SCRep. No. 24-83)	To establish Treatment Program Enforcement Officers within the Judiciary to carry out enforcement, supervision, and monitoring functions essential to the success of court-supervised treatment programs, and to ensure that these officers are fully recognized as law enforcement personnel under Commonwealth law.
H.B. No. 24-57, SD1 (See SCRep. No. 24-85)	To re-establish a Government Liability Cap.
H.B. No. 24-59, HD1, SD1 (See SCRep. No. 24-97)	To enact the 'CNMI Fair Billing Practices Act' to establish clear and fair standards for back billing practices in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to protect consumers while allowing service providers to recover unpaid amounts lawfully due; and for other purposes.

Q. PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

1. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-118:** Aug. 11, 2026 – Saipan Chamber of Commerce comments on H.B. No. 24-105.
2. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-119:** MPLT's financial statement, required supplementary information – Year ended September 30, 2025 with Report of Independent Auditors.
3. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-120:** Aug. 10, 2026 – Unified Mayors of CNMI letter of request seeking assistance in addressing methamphetamine epidemic that continues to devastate families across our islands.
4. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-121:** Aug. 13, 2026 – Youth Congress re Bill Nos. 20-02 and 03. [Vaporizable products and mental health and crisis ID]
5. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-122:** Aug. 13, 2026 – Youth Congress re Resolution Nos. 20-05 to 08.
6. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-123:** Aug. 26, 2026 – LB Director off-island notice 08/27-31, 2026.

7. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-124:** Aug. 27, 2026 – AG re comments on S.B. No. 24-53 – The consequences of restricting criminal investigations.
8. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-125:** Sept. 01, 2026 – LB and Youth Congress work schedule and austerity measures.
9. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-126:** Sept. 01, 2026 – Aug. 31, 2026 – MPLT Margin Loan Report.
10. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-127:** Sept. 03, 2026 – LB reduction in hours.
11. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-128:** Sept. 07, 2026 – Olomwaay Arts & Music regarding EO 2026-014.
12. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-129:** Sept. 08, 2026 – Refaluwasch Journal of Knowledge & Culture regarding EO 2026-014.
13. **Misc. Comm. No. 24-130:** [Rec'd 09/22/26] – Janet Maratita regarding H.B. No. 24-57 – To re-establish a Government Liability Cap.

R. ANNOUNCEMENTS; and

S. ADJOURNMENT.

APPEARANCE OF SENATE LOCAL BILLS

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
S.L.B. No. 24-05	To name the Rota East Harbor to the “Joseph Songao Inos East Harbor” in recognition and appreciation of his exemplary service and significant contributions to the Municipality of Rota and to the people of the Commonwealth; and for other purposes. <i>3rd Appearance</i>

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