

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building Capitol Hill P.O. Box 500586 Saipan, MP 96950 cnmileg.net

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9/5/2025

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 Third Day, Second Regular Session

Date and Time: Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 1:00 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 (<u>www.cnmileg.net</u>)

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 Tuesday, September 9, 2025.

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STAL NORTH DRAW

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

: 05 September 2025

TO

: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM

: Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez

SUBJECT

: Call for Session, 3rd Day, 2nd Regular Session

Pursuant to the House Rules of Procedure and the authority vested in me under the NMI Constitution, I hereby call for the 3rd Day, 2nd Regular Session for Tuesday, 09 September 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in the House Chamber.

cc: Senate President
House Clerk
Acting LB Director
SAPLR
Media

RECEIVED BY SAW PARE TIME 9:16 pm

TELEPHONE NO.: 670 664.8971/72

FACSIMILE NO.: 670.664.8900

EMAIL: rep.evillagomez@cnmileg.net

SESSION DAYCALENDAR DAYTIME3rd Day, Second Regular SessionTuesday, September 9, 20251:00 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. 24-59

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.

Prefiled by: REP. VINCENT R. ALDAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself)

B. House Local Bills:

H. L. B. No. 24-27

To appropriate Three Hundred and Five Thousand Dollars (\$305,000.00) for the continued operation and regulatory oversight 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:

H. RES. No. 24-12

To establish bi-annual legislative oversight hearings and reporting requirements for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), and the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regarding the implementation and impacts of Public Law No. 24-11; and for other purposes.

Prefiled by: REP. VINCENT R. ALDAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

B. House Joint Resolutions:

H. J. R. No. 24-8

To urge the United States to take immediate and comprehensive action to identify, remove, and safely dispose of World War II-era unexploded ordnance throughout the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prefiled by: REP. DANIEL I. AQUINO JR. of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Joel C. Camacho, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul)

H. J. R. No. 24-9

To respectfully urge the United States Department of the Treasury, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Postal Service and any other responsible federal agencies to immediately cease and desist the implementation of Executive Order 14324 and remit to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands all revenues collected under Executive Order 14324, or in the alternative, to recognize the CNMI's authority to collect such revenues itself consistent with the Covenant and applicable law in the event that said charges must be imposed.

Prefiled by: Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Edmund S. Villagomez, John Paul P. Sablan, Joel C. Camacho, Ralph N. Yumul, Vincent R. Aldan, and Daniel I. Aquino Jr.

- *C.* House Commemorative Resolutions:
- **D.** House Concurrent Resolutions:

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

GOV. COMM. 24-54: (8/29/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 24-20, 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.). Became **Tinian Local Law No. 24-06.** [For info]

GOV. COMM. 24-55: (9/4/2025) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. No. 24-25, 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.*). Became **Tinian Local Law No. 24-07.** [For info]

7. **SENATE COMMUNICATIONS** – (None)

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 24-60: (9/3/2025) From Representative Raymond U. Palacios, informing the Speaker that he is extending his personal leave previously noticed for August 26, 2025, through September 6, 2025, to September 13, 2025, and requesting to be excused from any official meetings or sessions during this period. [For info]

- 9. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH** (None)
- 10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES (None)

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

MISC. COMM. 24-53: (8/27/2025) From Charity Hodson, President, Northern Marianas Bar Association, expressing support for the Judiciary's proposed Judicial Code of Conduct and urging its adoption. [For info]

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – (9)

- **S. C. R. No. 24-22:** Reporting on Jud. Br. Comm. 24-3: Proposed NMI Code of Judicial Conduct. *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House disapprove the "Proposed NMI Code of Judicial Conduct."*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-28:** Reporting on S. B. No. 24-28, SD1, entitled: "To amend 6 CMC § 3113; to establish disorderly conduct and public intoxication crimes; and for other purposes." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass* **S. B. No. 24-28, SD1** in its current form.
- **S. C. R. No. 24-29:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-23, entitled: "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." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-23 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-30:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-36, entitled: "To establish a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 24-36, HD1.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-31:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-37, entitled: "To suspend the operations of the Commonwealth Casino Commission; to transfer casino regulatory functions to the Commonwealth Lottery Commission on an interim basis; to establish a Division of Gaming within the Department of Finance; and for other purposes." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House file H. B. No. 24-37.*

- 9 CMC §8209 by
- **S. C. R. No. 24-32:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-44, entitled: "To amend 9 CMC §8209 by removing the seven-day grace period for motorists who violate 9 CMC §\$8203 and 8204 with the citation effective immediately; and for other purposes." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-44 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-33:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-47, entitled: "To realign the authority and duties of the CNMI Department of Labor; and for the other purposes." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-47 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-34:** Reporting on H. B. No. 24-49, entitled: "To establish the CNMI Next/Gen 911 Telephone Communications System within the CNMI; and for other purposes." *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass H. B. No. 24-49 in its current form.*
- **S. C. R. No. 24-35:** Reporting on JUD. BR. COMM. 24-4: Proposed NMI Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure. *Your House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House disapprove the "Proposed NMI Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure."*
- 13. REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES (None)
- **14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS** (None)

15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Resolution	Subject	Action

16. BILL CALENDAR

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action
H. B. No. 24-50	A Bill for an Act to authorize a loan between the Commonwealth	
[S. C. R. No. 24-27]	Government and the Marianas Public Land Trust in the amount of	
	\$29,000,000 and authorize the Marianas Public Land Trust to	
	withhold and retain net annual distributable income starting Fiscal	
	Year 2026 for repayment and security of the loan. [Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the	
	legislation appeared on the House Agenda of August 29, 2025]	

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:

H. L. B. No. 24-22: To rename a portion of Lana Drive in the village of As Lito, Precinct I, to "Diego T. Benavente Drive" in honor of the Honorable Diego Tenorio Benavente, former Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, and long-serving public servant of the Commonwealth. Introduced by REP(S). VINCENT R. ALDAN, ROMAN C. BENAVENTE, DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO, JOSEPH A. FLORES, RAYMOND U. PALACIOS of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for themselves, Representative Edmund S. Villagomez) on August 29, 2025.

H. L. B. No. 24-23: To establish the Rota Cultural Heritage and Education Tour Act, for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO on behalf of REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (for herself) on August 29, 2025.

[ADDED-8/29/2025] H. L. B. No. 24-24: To establish the Rota Department of Public Works equipment rental fee, and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JOEL C. CAMACHO on behalf of REP. JULIE M. A. OGO of Rota, Precinct 7 (for herself) on August 29, 2025.

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on August 29, 2025:

H. B. No. 24-53: To amend 1 CMC § 7831 to exempt the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) from the mandatory one percent (1%) Public Auditor Fee, forgive all arrears related to such fee, and establish a cost-based audit recovery system with mandatory reporting and penalties for noncompliance; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. VINCENT R. ALDAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself) on August 29, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. [Public comments were received in an open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of August 29, 2025]

H. B. No. 24-54: To increase the number of military leave hours available to CNMI government employees and to broaden eligibility for its use. Introduced by REP. DANIEL I. AQUINO JR. of Saipan, Precinct 2 (for himself, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Diego V. F. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Thomas J. DIC. Manglona, Malcolm J. Omar, John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on August 29, 2025; and was moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

H. B. No. 24-55: To amend the penalties for illegally parking in spaces designated for persons with disabilities by strengthening and enforcing clear penalties for violation and repeat offenses and by ensuring accessible parking for persons with disabilities; and for other such purposes. Introduced by REP. DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO on behalf of REP. MARISSA R. FLORES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for herself*) on August 29, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. No. 24-56: To establish the CNMI Air Service Development Matching Fund to support federal air service development grants, such as the Small Community Air Service Development Program, and to provide procedures and responsibilities related to the use of the Fund. Introduced by REP. ANGELO A. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (for himself, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Daniel I. Aquino Jr., Roman C. Benavente, Marissa R. Flores, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul) on August 29, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[ADDED-8/29/2025] H. B. No. 24-57: To re-establish a Government Liability Cap. Introduced by REP. EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ of Saipan, Precinct 3, (for himself, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, Marissa R. Flores, and Ralph N. Yumul) on August 29, 2025; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[ADDED-8/29/2025] H. B. No. 24-58: To amend 4 CMC § 1305 to exempt services and the sale or exchange of securities and other similar assets from gross revenue tax; to amend 4 CMC § 1708 to allow rebates for exempted activities; to repeal 4 CMC § 1712; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. ANGELO A. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (for himself, Representatives Vincent R. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Joel C. Camacho, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul) on August 29, 2025; referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means on September 2, 2025.

H. L. B. No. 24-22: To rename a portion of Lana Drive in the village of As Lito, Precinct I, to "Diego T. Benavente Drive" in honor of the Honorable Diego Tenorio Benavente, former Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, and long-serving public servant of the Commonwealth. Introduced by REP(S). VINCENT R. ALDAN, ROMAN C. BENAVENTE, DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO, JOSEPH A. FLORES, RAYMOND U. PALACIOS of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for themselves, Representative Edmund S. Villagomez) on August 29, 2025.

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[ADDED-8/29/2025] H. L. B. No. 24-25: To appropriate Forty Two Thousand Dollars (\$42,000.00) 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 August 29, 2025.

[ADDED-8/29/2025] H. L. B. No. 24-26: To appropriate \$380,000.00 from revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 22-06; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. RALPH N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for himself, Representatives Angelo A. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, and John Paul P. Sablan) on August 29, 2025.