



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SPECIAL SESSION, 2018

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

1st Day, First Special Session

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

The House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its First Day, First Special Session on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 9:47 a.m., in the House Chamber on Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan, Speaker of the House, presided.

A moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll and all twenty members were present.

The Chair called for a short recess.

The House recessed at 9:49 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

The Chair reconvened plenary session and directed the members to Public Comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Five individuals made comments pertaining to the following:

H. B. NO. 20-164

To appropriate fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) from the Special Casino Gross Revenue Tax Account, earmarked under 4 CMC §2308.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, and John Paul P. Sablan)

GOV. COMM. 20-178: (3/16/18 received 3/19/18) Informing the House that he vetoed S. B. No. 20-21, SS1, SD1, (To establish a Northern Marianas Technical Institute by adding a new Chapter 11 to Title 3, Division 1 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes.). [*Deadline: 5/15/18*]

S. C. R. NO. 20-110: Reporting on S. B. No. 20-64, SD1, entitled: “To establish a State Directory of New Hires; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of S. B. NO. 20-64, SD1, HD1.*

Ms. Agnes McPhetres
 Ms. Sonia Camacho
 Mr. Frederick Deleon Guerrero
 Mr. Ross Manglona
 Ms. Barbra Cepeda

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 4 (d).

RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 4. Format of Bills and Resolutions

(d) Bills and resolutions for introduction may be pre-filed with the House Clerk for formal introduction at the next session, provided that it is pre-filed in sufficient time to appear on the session agenda as required under Rule III. The 72-hour notice and agenda requirements may be dispensed with for Special Emergency Sessions and Sessions called by the Governor in accordance with Rule III.

The motion was seconded.

The Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 4 (d) with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Clerk. Motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 4 (d) hereby carries. Thank you, members. Moving down to our Order of Business item III, Adoption of Journals. Let me recognize our Floor Leader.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following journal:

Third Day, Third Regular Session Journal – February 16, 2018

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the Third Day, Third Regular Session Journal – February 16, 2018 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following journal:

Fourth Day, Third Regular Session Journal – February 27, 2018

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the Fourth Day, Third Regular Session Journal – February 27, 2018 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following journal:

Fifth Day, Third Regular Session Journal – March 16, 2018

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the Fifth Day, Third Regular Session Journal – March 16, 2018 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair directed the members to item IV, Introduction of Bills and recognized Representative John Paul P. Sablan.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Bills:

Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-163

To reduce the time period for the Mayor to comment on local legislation to 15 days.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Ivan A. Blanco, and Angel A. Demapan)

The Chair referred House Bill 20-163 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.

Representative Angel A. Demapan officially introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-164

To appropriate fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) from the Special Casino Gross Revenue Tax Account, earmarked under 4 CMC §2308.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and John Paul P. Sablan)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Demapan. You may proceed.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Mr. Speaker, if there’s no objection and due to the urgency of one of the items listed in House Bill 20-164 relative to the reopening of the *Guma Hustisia*, I would like to request that House Bill 20-164 be placed on today’s Bill Calendar for action.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Angel Demapan. Let me now recognize the Floor Leader for that motion to place House Bill 20-164 on today’s Bill Calendar.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8.

RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 8. Referral of Bills and Resolutions

(a) Bills and resolutions shall be read by title upon introduction and (except as provided in subsection (b), the Speaker shall refer such measures to an appropriate committee or to more than one committee, jointly or sequentially. The Clerk shall endorse such reference on the measure before duplication and shall enter such reference upon the Journal. In the case of error of reference, correction may be made by the House, with debate, immediately after the reading and approval of the Journal, by unanimous consent, or upon motion of either committee claiming jurisdiction or the committee to which the measure has been erroneously referred.

(b) The Speaker may place a resolution directly on the Resolution Calendar, rather than refer it to a committee, subject to appeal to the House.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair directed the members to House Local Bills and recognized the Representative Janet U. Maratita.

House Local Bills:

Representative Janet U. Maratita officially introduced the following House Local Bill:

H. L. B. NO. 20-63

To re-appropriate Sixteen Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty dollars and Twenty-Four cents (\$16,830.24) from BU 4961M and BU 4962R; Fifty-Seven Thousand, Seven Hundred and Six dollars and Ninety-Five cents (\$57,706.95) from BU 7176D and BU 3754; and Thirty-Seven Thousand, Four Hundred Sixty-Two dollars and Eighty-One cents (\$37,462.81) from BU 3753G; and for other purposes.

REP. JANET U. MARATITA of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for herself*, Representatives Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, and Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.)

The Chair recognized Representative Edwin P. Aldan.

Representative Edwin P. Aldan officially introduced the following House Local Bill:

H. L. B. NO. 20-64

To appropriate \$79,000.00 from the local license fees collected for pachinko slot machines and poker machines in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.

REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*)

The Chair recognized Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao officially introduced the following House Local Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. L. B. NO. 20-65

To appropriate \$3,300,000 from revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 as amended for Fiscal Year 2018; and for other purposes.

REP. BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

House Legislative Initiatives: None

The Chair directed the members to item V, Introduction of Resolutions and recognized Representative Edwin K. Propst.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

House Resolutions:

Representative Edwin K. Propst officially introduced the following House Resolution and requests that the resolution be introduced by the Committee as a Whole:

H. RES. NO. 20-25

To honor and commend Justis “Cuki” F. Alvarez for his numerous accomplishments while representing the CNMI in various sporting events.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

Several members voiced “no objection.”

The Chair referred House Resolution 20-25 to the Resolution Calendar and directed the members to House Concurrent Resolution and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan.

House Joint Resolutions: None

House Commemorative Resolutions: None

House Concurrent Resolutions:

Representative Angel A. Demapan officially introduced the following House Concurrent Resolution:

H. C. R. NO. 20-2

To approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC, Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2019, beginning October 1, 2018, and ending on September 30, 2019.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Angel. Any objection if we place House Concurrent Resolution 20-2 on today’s Resolution Calendar?

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members.

The Chair directed the members to item VI, Messages from the Governor and recognized the Clerk.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Clerk announced the following Governor’s Communications:

GOV. COMM. 20-174: (3/14/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-3, SD1, (“To amend and repeal provisions of the Vehicle Code to allow for e-citation implementation; and for other purposes.”). Became **Public Law 20-45** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-175: (3/16/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. NO. 20-24, SD1, (“To amend 4 CMC § 50143(a) to provide immunity for minors assisting in

tobacco control undercover investigations; and for other purposes.”). Became **Public Law 20-46** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-176: (3/16/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. NO. 20-65, SD1, (“To establish a license suspension program for non-custodial parents who are in noncompliance with an order of support; and for other purposes.”). Became **Public Law 20-47** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-177: (3/16/18) Informing the House that he vetoed H. B. No. 20-96, SD1, (To amend 1 CMC §2264 to ensure that the Board of Education members receive compensation for committee meetings, which are vital to the development of policy and the functioning of the Public School System.). [**Deadline: 5/15/18**]

GOV. COMM. 20-178: (3/16/18 received 3/19/18) Informing the House that he vetoed S. B. No. 20-21, SS1, SD1, (To establish a Northern Marianas Technical Institute by adding a new Chapter 11 to Title 3, Division 1 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes.). [**Deadline: 5/15/18**]

GOV. COMM. 20-179: (03/16/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-56, (“Re-appropriate \$75,959 from various SLL.”). Became **Saipan Local Law 20-22** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-180: (3/19/18 received 3/20/18) **Executive Order 2018-3** – Declaration of a State of Significant Emergency: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation’s Imminent Generation and other Failure and the Need to Provide Immediate Reliable Power, Water and Wastewater services.

GOV. COMM. 20-181: (3/19/18) Certifying and granting approval for Ms. Jill Lisk-Clark, Wildlife Section Supervisor, Department of Lands and Natural Resources to receive an annual salary of \$58,443.00. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-182: (3/28/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-88, HD1, SD3, (“Repealer and Re-enactment “The Education Act of 1988”.”). Became **Public Law 20-48** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-183: (3/28/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-70, SD1, (“CNMI VETERAN’S CEMETARY REVOLVING FUND ACCOUNT” To est.”). Became **Public Law 20-49** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-184: (4/1/18) Submitting the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 (\$167,039,224 available for appropriation).

GOV. COMM. 20-185: (4/6/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. NO. 20-86, SD1, (“To Rename the Port of Tinian/Tinian Harbor, the “Honorable Jose Pangelinan San Nicolas Commercial Port of Tinian”; and For Other Purposes.”). Became **Public Law 20-50** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-186: (4/6/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-83, SS1, (“To amend 4 CMC §§ 2172-2173, to enable the Marianas Visitors Authority to strengthen qualifications for tour guides and tour operators, and to add a new Section 2174; and for other purposes.”). Became **Public Law 20-51** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-187: (4/7/18) From SAPLR informing the Legislature that H. B. No. 20-53, (To establish and clearly define the authority of the Department of Public Works to promulgate rules and regulations within the Rights Of Way (ROW); and for other purposes.) became **Public Law 20-52** on April 7, 2018 without the Governor's signature. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-188: (4/7/18) From SAPLR informing the Legislature that H. B. No. 20-128, (To amend 8 CMC §1202(a) to establish separate marriage license fees for residents and nonresidents; and for other purposes.) became **Public Law 20-53** on April 7, 2018 without the Governor's signature. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-189: (4/9/18) Submitting a copy of Mr. James Diego I. Benavente's *résumé*, statement of financial interest, police clearance, and drug test receipt. [*Deadline: 5/3/18*]

GOV. COMM. 20-190: (4/9/18) Certifying and granting approval for Mr. Eliceo Diaz Cabrera, Administrator for Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality to receive an annual salary of \$60,000.00. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-191: (4/10/18) Submitting a copy of Mr. Benjamin Huk L. Borja's *résumé*, statement of financial interest, police clearance, and drug test receipt. [*Deadline: 5/3/18*]

GOV. COMM. 20-192: (4/11/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. NO. 20-83, ("To empower and define the authority of Community Supervision Officers and Compliance Officers in treatment courts; and for other purposes."). Became **Public Law 20-54** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-193: (4/11/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. NO. 20-90, SD1, ("To amend 1 CMC §1610(a); to permit youth congress sessions every two months."). Became **Public Law 20-55** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-194: (12/29/17 received 4/16/18) Submitting the annual report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017.

GOV. COMM. 20-195: (4/13/18) Informing the House that \$15 million from the collection of the Saipan Casino Operator's Business Gross Revenue Tax (Imperial Pacific International (CNMI)) is available for appropriation and outlined recommendations: *\$7 million-Judiciary for the rehabilitation of the Guma Hustisia and new air conditioning system; \$3 million- for land compensation payments; and \$5 million- to be placed in secured funding account to be accessed in the case of disasters or emergencies.*

GOV. COMM. 20-196: (4/16/18) Submitting a copy of Mr. James Diego I. Benavente's drug test results. [*Deadline: 5/3/18*]

GOV. COMM. 20-197: (4/19/18) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-42, ("To amend 4 CMC, § 1302 (a), Tax on Agriculture Producers and Fishing to include Artists registered with the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture."). Became **Public Law 20-56** [*For info*]

The Chair recognized Representative Edwin P. Aldan.

Representative Edwin P. Aldan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Administration for signing into law communication 20-182, House Bill 20-88 the Education Act of 1988. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase.* Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Likewise, I want to extend my appreciation to the honorable Governor for signing House Bill 20-70 becoming Public Law 20-49. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase,* Representative Deleon Guerrero. Let me now recognize Representative Lee Pan Guerrero.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in respect to Governor's Communication 20-177, I request that this veto bill should be placed on the message from the Governor if there's no objection Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Again, all Governor's Communication will continue to be on the calendar on the Order of Business as long as the deadline is still within. As indicated also there is a deadline for this body to act whether to veto or to go ahead and proceed with what the Governor indicated. Further? None. We go down to item VII, Senate Communication. Let me now recognize the Floor Leader for the proper motion.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Floor Leader made a motion to accept the following Senate Communications so they may become property of the House:

SEN. COMM. 20-155: (3/21/18) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Joint Resolution No. 20-5, entitled, "A Senate Joint Resolution approving the Northern Mariana Islands Proposed Rules for *In Forma Pauperis* of the Judiciary of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.", which was adopted by the Senate on March 8, 2018 and by the House of Representative on March 16, 2018, Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-156: (3/22/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-26, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to require all contractors to be licensed in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.", which was passed by the Senate on March 22, 2018. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-157: (3/22/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-55, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to regulate motor vehicle rental companies; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the Senate on March 22, 2018. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-158: (3/22/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-56, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to amend 9 CMC §§8201 and 8205(a) to add new definitions

and to establish minimum liability coverage for rental car companies; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on March 22, 2018. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-159: (3/22/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-61, entitled, “A Bill for an Act to establish the Hunting Act of 2017 for the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on March 22, 2018. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-160: (3/22/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-73, entitled, “A Bill for an Act to amend 4 CMC §§4103 and 4201, to place the Office of the Registrar of Corporation under the Department of Commerce, provide the Registrar investigation power and authority to approve foreign corporations charter; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on March 22, 2018. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-161: (3/22/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-92, entitled, “A Bill for an Act to amend 2 CMC §2123 relative to the terms of CPA board members to comply with Article III, Section 21 of the NMI Constitution; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on March 22, 2018. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-162: (4/12/18) Informing the House that the Senate in its First Day, First Special Session, on April 12, 2018, adopted CCR No. 20-2 and passed H. B. 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1, entitled: “To repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes.” [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-163: (4/13/18) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 20-29, entitled, “to commend the Department of Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA) and the Graduate School USA for the numerous training opportunities that they provide to the government employees of the CNMI through the Pacific & Virgin Islands Training Initiative’s (PITI-VITI) Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP).”, which was adopted by the Senate on April 12, 2018. [*For info*]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to accept Senate Communications 20-155 to 20-163 so they may become property of the House was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair referred the following accordingly:

Senate Communication 20-156 referred to Commerce and Tourism

Senate Communication 20-157 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-158 referred to Ways and Means

Senate Communication 20-159 referred to Natural Resources

Senate Communication 20-160 referred to Commerce and Tourism

Senate Communication 20-161 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

The Chair directed the members to item VIII, House Communication and recognized the Clerk.

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following House Communications:

HSE. COMM. 20-101: (4/6/18) From Representative Guerrero informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business from April 7, 2018 to April 9, 2018, and on April 10, 2018 to April 16, 2018 on personal matters and request to be excused from any and all official functions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 20-102: (4/13/18) From the Speaker informing all Members that he will be out of the Commonwealth on official business on April 16, 2018 to April 17, 2018 and designates Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita as Acting Speaker. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 20-103: (4/20/18) From Representative Dela Cruz, PUC Chair, submitting amended composition to the Public Utilities and Communications Committee adding one additional Member, Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero. [*For info*]

The Chair recognized Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to House Communication 20-103, I want to thank Chairman Frank Dela Cruz for appointing me into the Public Utilities and Communications Committee and I am ready to work with the committee. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Deleon Guerrero.

The Chair directed the members to item XII, Reports of Standing Committees and recognized the Floor Leader.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

None

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-109: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-144, entitled: “To amend Title 1, General Provisions, Chapter 4, Article 3 by adding a new § 439 naming the Rota Fire Station 8 the “Robert O. Hocog Fire Station”; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee*

*on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass **H. B. No. 20-144** in its current form.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-109 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-110: Reporting on S. B. No. 20-64, SD1, entitled: “To establish a State Directory of New Hires; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of **S. B. NO. 20-64, SD1, HD1.***

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-110 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-111: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-100, entitled: “To establish a reserve fund to be used to meet the future needs of the Commonwealth.” *Your Committee on Ways and Means recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-100, HSI.***

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-111 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-112: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-80, entitled: “To provide a tax incentive for business entities that hire qualified ex-offenders.” *Your Committee on Ways and Means recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-80, HD1.***

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-112 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-113: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-29, HD1, SD2, entitled: “To appropriate nine hundred thirty-one thousand, three hundred forty dollars (\$931,340.00) from the Cancer Fund Special Account, earmarked under 4 CMC §1402(g)(2), to support

and expand cancer awareness, detection and prevention programs and to appropriate four hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$485,000.00) from the Second Senatorial District's Solid Waste Revolving account for the payment to Docomo Pacific, Inc." *Your Committee on Ways and Means recommends that the full membership of the House accept the amendments made by the Senate in the form of H. B. No. 20-29, HD1, SD2.*

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Again, motion has been seconded, discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Dela Cruz.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that we will be adopting this Standing Committee Report 20-113. In the leadership meeting we had yesterday, a question was raised as to the Memorandum of Understanding between this government and Docomo Pacific. I have not seen that MOU as of this time and I am hoping that before we get to the Bill Calendar to discuss this we would have that piece of information with us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Dela Cruz. Well noted. Any member – recognize the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: My apologies to our good colleague here Representative Dela Cruz, but I believe our Sergeant at Arms has distributed a copy of the MOU and the attachment. If none, then we will make certain that copies will be delivered to those that don't have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Those that don't have copies, certainly we will provide you a copy and when we get to the Bill Calendar we will discuss with you further unless you have any questions on the committee's work.

There was no further discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-113 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-114: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-153, entitled: "To amend 2 CMC § 4433 to authorize the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation to promulgate regulations on procurement, travel, and personnel matters; and for other purposes." *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. NO. 20-153, HD1.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-114 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-115: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-155, entitled: “To require all Commonwealth governmental entities to submit an annual “Citizen-Centric Report” of their activities.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. NO. 20-155, HD1.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-115 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-116: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-158, entitled: “To add a new Article 5 to Chapter 5, Division 8 of Title 1 of the Commonwealth Code to establish the Pregnancy Related Medical Leave and the Parental Leave Act; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends that the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. NO. 20-158, HD1.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-116 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair directed the members to item XIII, Reports of Special and Conference Committee and recognized the Floor Leader.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following Conference Committee Report:

C. C. R. NO. 20-2: Reporting on H. B. 20-102, HD1, SS1, entitled, “To repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes.” *Your Conference Committee recommends passage of the bill in the form of H. B. 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1.*

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Again, because it is a conference product this conferee report may not be amended. Our action today is just to approve or disapprove the measure. Clerk for the roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to adopt Conference Committee Report 20-2 with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. Again, with all 20 members present and voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1 hereby passes the House. Thank you, members. We will go ahead and handle these two resolutions and then we’ll get to the Bill Calendar and act on – once we get to the Bill Calendar we will go ahead and act first the House Bill 20-164. Before that let’s go down to item XV, Resolution Calendar. Floor Leader.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following House Resolution:

H. RES. NO. 20-24

A House Resolution to commend the Department of Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA) and the Graduate School USA for the numerous training opportunities that they provide to the government employees of the CNMI through the Pacific & Virgin Islands Training Initiative’s (PITI-VITI) Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP).

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Resolution 20-24 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following House Resolution:

H. RES. NO. 20-25

To honor and commend Justis “Cuki” F. Alvarez for his numerous accomplishments while representing the CNMI in various sporting events.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Resolution 20-25 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to adopt the following House Concurrent Resolution:

H. C. R. NO. 20-2

To approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC, Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2019, beginning October 1, 2018, and ending on September 30, 2019.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to adopt House Concurrent Resolution 20-2 with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Clerk. With all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Concurrent Resolution 20-2 hereby passes the House. Thank you, members. Now that we just approved the Concurrent Resolution, I ask each member especially the members from the Ways and Means to focus on the upcoming budget. Thank you, members. So with that, we will go ahead and go down to item XVI and before we begin, can I ask for a short five minutes recess. Recess.

The House recessed at 10:49 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:01 a.m.

BILL CALENDAR

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess. Prior to our recess we were on item XVI, Bill Calendar. Let me now recognize the Floor Leader for the first House Bill to be motioned.

The Floor Leader offered a motion to pass the following House Bill on First and Final Reading:

H. B. NO. 20-164

To appropriate fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) from the Special Casino Gross Revenue Tax Account, earmarked under 4 CMC §2308.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, and John Paul P. Sablan)

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Floor Leader. Again, your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Let me recognize Representative Angel Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, one of the first items here on House Bill 20-164 involves a \$7 Million Dollar appropriation for the removal and remediation of mold and rehabilitation and procurement of a new air-conditioning system for the *Guma Hustisia*. The Chair would like to thank the Director of Courts, Ms. Sonia Camacho who provided the members with a copy of the communications between the judiciary and the CIP office as well as the breakdown with anticipated cost and finally the cost summary provided by WM Engineering Services, LLC as a result of RFP 17-Judiciary-03 entitled “The assessment for mold remediation and eradication design.” Mr. Speaker, I understand that most if not all the members have several concerns that they’d like to be addressed regarding this appropriation. We do see from these documents that have been submitted that WM Engineering Services have submitted a quotation or estimated project cost of \$4.3 Million Dollars and the court has submitted a proposed budget for other collaterals which bring the total up to \$7 Million Dollars and so for the sake of clarification Mr. Speaker and if there’s no objection from the members, I would like to recommend that we dissolve to the Committee of the Whole to entertain the judiciary at this time.

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Angel. Let me ask the Floor Leader for the proper motion to effectuate a motion to dissolve into a Committee of the Whole so we allow the judicial to also enlighten the members and as stated by Representative Angel to do some clarification on the figures. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: On that note Mr. Speaker, I move that we dissolve into Committee of the Whole.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to dissolve into Committee of the Whole was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The House dissolved into Committee of the Whole at 11:08 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The House reconvened into plenary session at 12:39 p.m.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: I would like to make a motion that we rise back to our plenary session. So move.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to reconvene into plenary session was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Floor, can I ask you to restate the motion?

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Motion is for the passage on Final Reading, Mr. Speaker, House Bill 20-164.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it's safe to assume or we can tell from all of our comments from our colleagues that we are all in support and I thank the Chairman of Ways and Means for putting this bill together and for pushing this funding for our court. Again, my only concern is that we just got this. I personally would like more time to review this – we just got the assessment and I would like to have time to ask a few more questions. I ask this because we do know that the timeline as Director Sonia had mentioned is about 365 days for completion of this contract, this RFP that would put from start to finish. If

you look at an actual RFP that's put together normally takes two to three months or something. So we're looking at it's not going to happen tomorrow even if we were to appropriate it today, the courts are not going to open up tomorrow. I am not asking for three months or six months, we're asking for time until our next session to have time to look at this, analyze it, ask critical questions that we may have that we may not have right now because again I am trying to absorb all of this but I do have some questions that I'm sure will come up later. I need to look at description of things and compare it and contrast to other places to try to get a better analysis. I do – I am aware this is not the actual quote and this is just an idea of how much it's going to cost, but I do want to just have a little bit more time and that is what I have been requesting Mr. Speaker and I would encourage that we have a feedback and input from our community that might help as well. I know that we have a strict timeline, but again this just came out today – this bill and we're about to vote on it on First and Final Reading. I would definitely support in our next session if we can have just a little bit more time. That's all I'm asking. Thank you, Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Propst for your comment. Further discussion? Let me recognize Representative Angel Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In non-judiciary related issue. I would like to offer a floor amendment to House Bill 20-164.

Representative Angel A. Demapan offered the following floor amendment:

Floor Amendment

To: House Bill No. 20-164

Offered by: Representative Angel A. Demapan

AMENDMENTS:

1. Page 2, Line 16:

Delete “Five Million dollars (\$5,000,000.00)” and insert “Three Million Seven Hundred Thousand dollars (3,700,000.00)”.

2. Page 2, Line 21:

Add new subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

“(d) Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand dollars (\$650,000.00) shall be used to pay Docomo Pacific, Inc. as the CNMI Government’s cost share for the installation and operation of a new fiber network on Tinian as referenced in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the CNMI and Docomo Pacific, Inc dated March 10, 2016. The Secretary of Finance shall be the expenditure authority for the funds appropriated under this section.

(e) Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand dollars (\$650,000.00) shall be used to pay Docomo Pacific, Inc. as the CNMI Government’s cost share for the installation and operation of a new fiber network on Rota as referenced in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the CNMI and Docomo Pacific, Inc dated

March 10, 2016. The Secretary of Finance shall be the expenditure authority for the funds appropriated under this section.”

Consistent with the intent of the forgoing amendment(s), I hereby also move to allow the Legal Counsel together with the House Clerk to make further non-substantive technical amendments that are strictly necessary to effectuate the intent of this floor amendment prior to transmittal.

Date: April 24, 2018

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Angel A. Demapan

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:
/s/ Legal Counsel John Cool

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Demapan. Your floor amendment has been seconded. Discussion on the amendment? Floor Leader recognized.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just thought I'd put this on record about the amendments that was made. I am not really sure if the Tinian Delegation had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Dino Manning from Docomo Pacific, but for the benefit of the members and transparency of course, the figure of \$650,000.00 for Rota and Tinian came about from Docomo representatives in itself in our meeting back in April 4th – I was given the assurance that also \$1.7 Million of that coverage was suppose to come from CIP. So to briefly state the reason of having to appropriate or set aside \$1.3 Million is because of these information Mr. Speaker and I would like to ask the indulgence of the members to support this amendment. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Floor Leader. Recognize Representative Donald Barcinas.

Representative Donald C. Barcinas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to inquire about the inability of the CIP program to get the funding and what happened to that?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Let me recognize Representative Angel Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Representative Barcinas, are you referring to the \$1.7 Million he just mentioned – the Floor Leader just mentioned? That \$1.7 Million is going to be paid if not already paid by the CIP office. \$1.3 Million is the remaining and that's split into two between Rota and Tinian.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Angel for that clarification. Further discussion? Ready? Recognize Representative Frank Dela Cruz.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that there's some funding from House Bill 20-29, HD1, SD2 to pay for Tinian's obligation on this fiber optic interconnection by Docomo. Now we're proposing \$1.3 Million Dollars, \$650,000 Rota and \$650,000 Tinian. I guess we need to be clear on why these amounts are being paid to this private

company. It was because back in the day when Docomo Pacific decided to lay their ATISA cable between Saipan and Guam, Tinian and Rota were not included in the package. So as a government and just to be clear, I wasn't in the legislature at that time. As a government it saw fit that our two islands be also included, but that came at a cost – a cost of about \$6.9 Million Dollars to include Rota and Tinian in this new fiber optic cable and of course Docomo said we can do it you have to pay, but I'm thinking we're one Commonwealth. Who is this private company to tell us that "if you don't pay us we cannot include Rota and Tinian." You're a private company, you're going to make profits from the consumers, the people of the Commonwealth, but no. So here we are paying this private company to profit from our Commonwealth. I don't know where this happens. Surely doesn't happen in the US or Hawaii. You're a private company, you are going to make a profit otherwise you wouldn't go into business and they new this, but the CNMI government gave way and said "okay, we don't want to leave Rota and Tinian behind, so we'll fork out the six point something million." Mr. Speaker and members, I totally disagree with this. I was not in a position to oppose this at the time but let us not make the same mistake to other companies that come in or even Docomo for that matter of trying to do business in the Commonwealth and at the same time sticking it to the people that are giving them this opportunity to do business here. I just wanted to state that for the record and I know that the amendment offered by Chairman Demapan is somewhat comingled with the \$7 Million Dollars so it's almost like we're torn. I wouldn't have voted for this payment to Docomo if it was a standalone legislation, but it's almost like a package deal. Don't vote for Docomo, we hurt the judiciary. Again Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to share this issue. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Dela Cruz. Let me recognize the mover.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just in response to Representative Dela Cruz, although his concerns are valid none of us like Representative Dela Cruz were in a position to influence the memorandum of agreement that was exercised between the Commonwealth and Docomo Pacific. However, we're in a position to decide whether we want to satisfy an outstanding obligation of the government. How we got there, beyond our control but the power is here and the power of the decision to satisfy outstanding obligations is here. We can choose not to fund the commitment to Tinian and Rota's fiber optic network. Docomo Pacific at that time in 2016 also had a choice to decide whether to connect to Rota and Tinian because it was not a requirement. They could have easily connected to Saipan and that was it but our government although it's not the legislature, bound Docomo Pacific and the government into a commitment. In order for our residents of Rota and Tinian to have the opportunity to enjoy the connectivity to the world. If we decide today that we don't want to satisfy these obligations – I believe the Floor Leader has met with Docomo Pacific and has been informed that Docomo Pacific is okay without us satisfying the obligation, but they would terminate the services and disconnect the fiber optic connection to Tinian and Rota. I want to remind everybody in this body and the general public that when IT&E entered the Commonwealth to lay the first fiber optic network, although IT&E was not given \$1.3 Million Dollars in subsidy it was given exclusivity that made them profit far and beyond any profit Docomo Pacific stands to realize as a result of this subsidy. Again, we were not a party to that agreement. We were not a party to that negotiation, but what we are a party to today is the governments financial obligation and this is one of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Angel Demapan. Before I recognize Chairman Edwin, let me recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the proposed allocation \$650,000 for Rota and Tinian to pay Docomo. I have in front of me a Memorandum of Agreement it was signed by the Governor, President and CEO of Docomo and Chairman of Docomo and I did ask this question prior. How effective is this document that we are now considered in debt? I wanted to ask Legal Counsel. How effective is this Memorandum of Understanding and why hasn't it passed through the office of the Attorney General? Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Let me allow the Legal Counsel to respond to that question.

Legal Counsel John Cool: I have not reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding, but your questions are legitimate. I don't know how it didn't go through, apparently, it's not signed by the Attorney General. It was an obligation that was taken on by the Governor as the Chief Executive of the Commonwealth. It was relied upon by Docomo and they performed, but I do have serious questions just as you do as to why they didn't go through at least the proper channel of having an Attorney General review it because it is a contract. At that time, as the law related to the responsibilities of the Attorney General is that the Attorney General is suppose to review all contracts for legal sufficiency and capacity. In this case, apparently the law was not complied with.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Counsel. Further?

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Counsel for agreeing with me.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Deleon Guerrero. Let me recognize Representative Edwin Aldan.

Representative Edwin P. Aldan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and members, like every other previous speaker have commented on this issue even during yesterday's leadership this obligation was consummated by the Administration and Docomo. Here we are again, the municipality are trying to find ways to make sure that the services are not interrupted or cut – or Tinian and Rota cut from the entire world. Communication is very essential to our livelihood in Tinian. As we speak, we are starting to do telemedicine, broadband educational system's that have been provided through NMC and PSS. We do not have science labs on Tinian for our students so they are connected to the schools here on Saipan. I am not going to sit around and wait for somebody to pay for it when we know that Docomo is knocking on the door telling us "you don't pay come June, we're going to disconnect you." As a Representative of Tinian and I am glad that Representative Angel and other members are considering and I ask for your support. So once and for all we pay this amount. The amount we have on a different bill is \$450 because that's all we have that we could afford to pay upfront but actually its \$650 that we needed. Like yesterday's leadership discussion we were talking about this to accommodate Tinian and Rota and I thank the other members for supporting this and I urge other members to please support this. This is not only going to particular projects in Tinian and Rota but for a very essential project that is undertaken and is providing services to our people on the islands of Tinian and Rota. I continue to urge the support of the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Aldan. Let me recognize Representative Joe Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For those members who are considering this amendment, I think it's important that we shed some light – a little bit of history about this issue and Representative Dela Cruz as he stated was not there when this issue was raised. After the internet blackout happened in July 8, 2015 when the fiber optic cable was severed, I think most of you remember that the impact it had and how reliant we all were on internet services, using your ATM cards, trying to withdraw funds from the bank our payroll, just about every service relies heavily on this connectivity. When that happened, it was a wakeup call. At that time, we only had one fiber optic cable servicing our islands. That incident made us aware of how important redundancy is. How we needed to have not just one, at least two or more cables so that in the event such an incident happen we could still function. If you recall at that time, IT&E tried to rely on the microwave to service our needs, but it was incapable. It didn't have the capacity to meet our needs. Subsequent to that Docomo did approach this body and I was there and some members probably were there at that time. Their proposal was to link Guam and Saipan it did not include Tinian and Rota because of the cost they claimed, but that by having spurs to service Tinian and Rota it would drive the cost up by 60%. We tried to convince them that we understand the economies of scale that Saipan was where the market was but we could not leave Tinian and Rota behind. They were entitled to the same services that Saipan would get for obvious reasons. Whether it would be telemedicine, for the schools or you know payroll. The important thing here was that – I would like to commend the former Governor for taking the initiative to negotiate to find ways so that our neighboring islands could also be serviced. We were not partied to that but I think if you read the memorandum, his approach was to try to secure additional CIP funding to ask Interior for additional funding to accommodate this that was the primary plan. And still that was the primary source of payment to cover these costs. I think that having Tinian and Rota as a municipality be burdened with the cost to provide these services to those islands is not their responsibility. This is a CNMI government responsibility. Yes, the government committed the CNMI government, but as a whole it is not a municipality cost. We are a CNMI, not a municipal government. So, understanding that I hope the members can consider and support the proposed amendment. I also want to mention for the record Mr. Speaker that we just passed Standing Committee Report 20-113 and in it on page 5 under Section 3 was an amendment by the Senate to appropriate \$485,000 to the Second Senatorial District to cover this cost. They did that because they didn't want these services to be terminated if it's not paid. For the record Mr. Speaker, we cannot amend that any further that bill as it came from the Senate we can only accept or reject it. If we do pass this amendment what we can perhaps do is maybe a letter from the Speaker informing the Governor of our actions that we are already are going to satisfy these obligations and to perhaps line item veto that section so that the funding can stay at our solid waste revolving fund. That's all Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Deleon Guerrero. Let me recognize the Vice Speaker.

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Mr. Speaker. *Ya hu ha bai tattiyi si Representative Frank Dela Cruz pot este – pot i munga hit hu ma ayuda i mañelu-ta giya Luta yan Tinian pot este na sibishu. I punto guini hunggan obligasion esta este ni para hita ni taotao Marianas or i gobietnamento na debi di ma apasi este sa i Memorandum of Understanding. Lao*

kompania estigue ma'ma' sala'lape. Este na kompania ma charge iyo-ta siha consumers pot i sibishu siha. Pues yaki gi esta guaha i gobiernamento ha asiste este na kompania pot parao ma na posible i fiber optic. Pues hayi gai-iyu pa'go este man ma'matitinas salape pa'go i Docomo ya munge i finatinas niha para tati gi taotao ta? Taya. Ya disde nai'an i executive branch siña ha cho'gue este na klasen Memorandum of Understanding considering the separation of powers. The Legislature I think is the most appropriate branch to come up with perhaps a resolution or some kind of – you know like what we used to do for the Flame Tree, Little League and so forth. I think we have to stop this kind of practice. We should never appropriate or give money to a profit-making company or any other entity. Mr. Speaker, I hope this would be the last. Pot fabot we really need to get a return investment for our community, for our people and again Docomo Pacific is making a huge amount of money charging television, telephone and so forth. We are paying millions and I have not objection to assisting our sister-islands in this regard, but my only concern is what is it for our people that we – I think Docomo Pacific should start giving discounted rate to the people of Rota and Tinian so that at least we have something for them to be making a huge profit. I believe that they should share it back to the people of Rota and Tinian. That is all Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to echo the sentiments again of Representative Dela Cruz that this is a profit-making company and therefore I strongly oppose to this payment, but since it's an obligation of the government, I just have to go ahead and support the bill. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Vice Speaker. Let me recognize Representative Frank Dela Cruz.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that we are bound to live up to the commitment of the Commonwealth, but if it's one thing that I will never agree to is the fact that this company from what I'm hearing is threatening the Commonwealth that if we don't make payment, they are going to pull out their cables and their equipment from Rota and Tinian. I guess the beauty of it all is that we don't have a monopoly now. They can't pull out if that's what they want. Let them take their cable, let them take their equipment's, this Commonwealth should not be threatened. They are here to make a profit. Somebody once said it's unscrupulous and we're being bamboozled by this corporation. Let me tell you a little story. At one time, I got a call from this lady in Guam Docomo. She goes, "Hey, Mr. Dela Cruz we have this bundle that we can offer you." I said, "a bundle?" "Yes, a bundle." "Well what does it got?" "It's got internet, it's got cable, landline, wireless." So, I asked the question, "How much is this bundle?" She goes, "Mr. Dela Cruz, it's \$220.00 a month." So, I looked at all my expenses for all these little utilities and it was a good deal. So for two months I was paying my \$220.00 a month bill. On the third month I received a bill for \$560.00. So, I said to myself, "there must be a mistake because this is not what I signed up for, I signed up for the \$220.00 bundle." The lady goes "Mr. Dela Cruz you over exceeded your data bucket." I said, "What? What data bucket? Nobody told me anything about this data bucket." "Yes, you have a data bucket and you over exceeded it." I said, "Oh boy, I got bamboozled." I am wrapping Mr. Speaker. I am just wrapping up right now. So, one month down the road I stopped this bundle because I cannot pay \$560.00 a month to watch cable, to use the phone. Guess what, two months later they removed the data bundle and I was asking some of the people there, they said "we were losing a lot of customers." They were moving to the other company and I said "wow, that sounds familiar that's just like me." So, I guess this are the unscrupulous things that can happen when we're not careful especially with these telecommunications companies. I am sure a lot of people out there has experience this aside from myself. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Dela Cruz. Again, the floor amendment is before each one of us. It's a policy call on our part. Further discussion?

There was no further discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Representative Angel A. Demapan was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, colleagues. Further discussion? Recognize Representative Blanco.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just – perhaps we just forgot. Chairman Lee Pan, on page 2, line 7 are we still keeping “wet lands?”

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Yes that's right.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's all.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. If I may, after serious discussions with our regulatory agencies and serious thought in getting this project going under this source of funding and of course after serious thought let me ask the assistance of the Clerk if we can use the ELMO. I would like to officially offer a floor amendment on House Bill 20-164

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan officially offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT TO H. B. NO. 20-164

H. B. No. 20-164 is amended as follows:

I. Page 2, lines 16 to 20, are amended to read:

“(c) ~~Five Million dollars (\$5,000,000.00)~~ Three Million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) shall be placed in a secured account to be accessed in the case of disasters or emergencies. The Secretary of Finance shall be the expenditure authority for the funds appropriated under this section.

II. Page 2, line 21. Add a new subsection (f)

(f) Seven Hundred Thousand dollars (\$700,000.00) for the rehabilitation and improvement of Sugar Dock including architectural and engineering design. The Secretary of the Department of Public Works shall be the expenditure authority for the funds appropriated under this section.

Consistent with the intent of the forgoing amendment(s), I hereby also move to allow the Legal Counsel together with the House Clerk to make further non-substantive technical amendments that are strictly necessary to effectuate the intent of this floor amendment prior to transmittal.

Date: April 24, 2018

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Rafael S. Demapan

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:
/s/ Legal Counsel John Cool

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Further discussion? The floor amendment has been seconded. Recognized.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Just a quick question, Mr. Speaker. So we're taking out \$5,000,000.00 and giving some to Rota and Tinian and then the remaining to the Sugar Dock?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: No, we're taking out only \$700 from here. As we all know, Sugar Dock is not just a precinct issue it's a Commonwealth issue and a lot of our residents would go and enjoy, but more so on the safety issue. I stated briefly that we have continue to dialogue with our regulatory agencies and this is just part of the estimated cost that would be needed for the completion of the Sugar Dock. So, I respectfully ask each member to please support the amendment. Recognize.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to support this floor amendment, but \$700,000 for the design and rehabilitation improvement of the Sugar Dock. Was there an assessment done and what engineering firm and is \$700,000 would be enough? I read in previous media the intent was to demolish the entire dock and rebuild it? That is not the case now?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: That is correct. And this is just half of the estimated cost. A real assessment will come on a later date, but to begin the process from RFP to procurement and so on this is just a portion of that. So again, I ask each member to support it's a health issue and it's long overdue. Further discussion? Ready?

There was no further discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Speaker Rafael S. Demapan was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Further discussion? Recognize Representative Angel.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Sorry Mr. Speaker, just one very brief amendment and if the Counsel can pull up on ELMO page 2, just going to insert one word for the benefit of landowners whose land were taken by the government and sometimes are left out in the category of land compensation. So, on item (b) page 2, lines 5 and 6 to insert the word "taking" in between "land" and "compensation." So move, Mr. Speaker.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the oral floor amendment offered by Representative Angel A. Demapan was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Clerk for the roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill 20-164, House Draft 3 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	no
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker 19 members vote “yes” and 1 member voted “no.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With 19 members voting in the affirmative and 1 voting “no,” House Bill 20-164, HD3 hereby passes the House. Thank you, member. Can we have a short recess.

The House recessed at 1:24 p.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 2:54 p.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Back from our recess. Floor you still have the floor.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following House Bill on First and Final Reading:

H. B. No. 20-29, HD1, SD2

To appropriate nine hundred thirty-one thousand, three hundred forty dollars (\$931,340.00) from the Cancer Fund Special Account, earmarked under 4 CMC §1402(g)(2), to support and expand cancer awareness, detection and prevention programs and to appropriate four hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$485,000.00) from the Second Senatorial District’s Solid Waste Revolving account for the payment to Docomo Pacific, Inc. [**S. C. R. NO. 20-113**]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill 20-29, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 2 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-29, HD1, SD2 hereby passes the House.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Recognize.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, thank you. Now that we have passed House Bill 20-29, again a small reminder this is the bill that contains the appropriation by the Senate that we could not amend, but since we have addressed the Docomo issue through our previous appropriation it would kindly send the message perhaps along the bill that Section 3 should be line item vetoed. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you for that information. I have noted that earlier. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following Senate Bill on First and Final Reading with the following results:

S. B. No. 20-64, SD1, HD1

To establish a State Directory of New Hires; and for other purposes. [S. C. R. NO. 20-110]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass Senate Bill 20-64, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. Again, with all 20 members voting in the affirmative, Senate Bill 20-64, SD1, HD1 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following House Bill on First and Final Reading with the following results:

H. B. No. 20-155, HD1

To require all Commonwealth governmental entities to submit an annual “Citizen-Centric Report” of their activities. [**S. C. R. NO. 20-115**]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill 20-155, House Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes

Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. Again, with all 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-155, HD1 passes the House. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to pass the following House Bill on First and Final Reading with the following results:

H. B. No. 20-158, HD1

To add a new Article 5 to Chapter 5, Division 8 of Title 1 of the Commonwealth Code to establish the Pregnancy Related Medical Leave and the Parental Leave Act; and for other purposes. [S. C. R. NO. 20-116]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk for a roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill 20-158, House Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	yes
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	yes
Representative Edwin K. Propst	yes
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 20 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Clerk. Again, with 20 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-158, HD1 hereby passes the House. Thank you, members. As mentioned earlier, we are going to take care of the remaining bills next week. Anticipated date will be on Tuesday. So with that again, thank you all members for your support on any of the bills. Going down to item XVII, Miscellaneous Business. Recognize Representative Angel Demapan.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like the record to reflect that – I would like to express our sincere appreciation to United States Senator Lisa Murkowski for leading the passage of Senate Bill 2325 the US Northern Mariana Islands Workforce Act. The bill as a result of collective work by everyone in our community who were determine to rescue our economy from the ill effects previous legislations passed in the US Congress. I want to especially thank Senator Murkowski and her staff for their leadership and for personally visiting the Commonwealth just a few weeks ago. I also want to recognize Governor Torres and the business community, particularly the Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corporation for their input and their work in moving this legislation forward. Fortunately, I had the opportunity to personally meet with Chairman Rob Bishop of the House Natural Resources Committee with Governor Torres and members of the NMBAC where we discuss the impact this bill will have on our economy. We are comforted by Chairman Bishop's assurance and support to help move this legislation forward swiftly in the House of Representatives. So, just to share that news coming from Washington, we received this news early this morning on the passage of Senate Bill 2325. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Angel Demapan and thank you for that information. Anyone? If none, we will go down to item XVIII, Announcement. Anyone? Floor Leader for the adjournment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: On that note, Mr. Speaker I move that we adjourn subject to your call.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The House adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Venetia S. Rosario
House Journal Clerk

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. 20-61: To adopt and enact the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989 as approved and adopted by the CNMI Superior Court in *CNMI v. Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission, et al.*, Civil Action No. 91-690 (Aug. 18, 1993); To further Amend the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989; To Repeal Tinian Local Laws 14-01, 18-05, 19-12, and 20-05; and for other purposes. Introduced by Prefiled by: REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on March 16, 2018.

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:

H. L. B. NO. 20-60: To amend Article 9, Section 902(c) of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, as amended, by granting the Saipan Zoning Board with the authority to exempt temporary residential structures of the parking requirements. Introduced by REP. JOSEPH LEEPAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on February 27, 2018.

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on March 16, 2018:

H. B. NO. 20-159: To eliminate the required leave for government employees after candidate certification. Introduced by REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representative Vinnie F. Sablan) on March 16, 2018; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 20-160: To enact a provision to provide tax incentives for employers who hire individuals with special needs. Introduced by REP. LORENZO I. DELEON GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*, Representatives Donald C. Barcinas, Angel A. Demapan, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 16, 2018; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[ADDED] H. B. NO. 20-161: To provide for a tax rate for foreign corporations earning income from outside of the Commonwealth. Introduced by REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on March 16, 2018; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[ADDED] H. B. NO. 20-162: To regulate the practice of law. Introduced by REP. JANET U. MARATITA of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for herself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, and Alice S. Igitol)

[ADDED] H. L. B. NO. 20-61: To adopt and enact the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989 as approved and adopted by the CNMI Superior Court in *CNMI v. Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission, et al.*, Civil Action No. 91-690 (Aug. 18, 1993); To further Amend the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989; To Repeal Tinian Local Laws 14-01, 18-05, 19-12, and 20-05; and for other purposes. Introduced by Prefiled by: REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on March 16, 2018.

[ADDED] H. L. B. NO. 20-62: To appropriate the sum of One Million, Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000.00) from the Exclusive Gaming Annual License Fees allotted to the Third Senatorial District under 4 CMC §2307(c)(2); and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. LORENZO I. DELEON GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Jose I. Itibus, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 16, 2018.

H. RES. NO. 20-20: To congratulate and honor all the women in the Commonwealth as we celebrate their contributions and achievements during the month of March 2018 proclaimed as CNMI Women’s Month and March 8th as International Women’s Day. Introduced by REP. JANET U. MARATITA of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for herself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan,

Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 16, 2018; subsequently placed on the resolution calendar.

H. RES. NO. 20-21: To honor †Tomas A. Camacho, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa for his unwavering dedication and relentless services to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and to extend our sincere condolences to his bereaved family on his untimely passing. Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 16, 2018; subsequently placed on the resolution calendar.

H. RES. NO. 20-22: To honor and commend the late Frances Faibar Rebueng for her unwavering dedication and extensive length of service to the Commonwealth in the field of law enforcement and to extend our heartfelt condolences to her bereaved family on her untimely passing. Introduced by REP. JANET U. MARATITA of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for herself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 16, 2018; subsequently placed on the resolution calendar.

H. RES. NO. 20-23: To recognize and commend the Chamorro Hands in Education Links Unity (CHE’LU) Organization for their continuous contributions to the community in their efforts to preserve and promote the Chamorro culture and language. Introduced by REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 16, 2018; subsequently placed on the resolution calendar.

[ADDED] H. RES. NO. 20-24: To commend the Department of Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA) and the Graduate School USA for the numerous training opportunities that they provide to the government employees of the CNMI through the Pacific & Virgin Islands Training Initiative’s (PITI-VITI) Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP). Introduced by REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on March 16, 2018.

House information on deadlines for override: None