



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2017

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

9th Day, Second Regular Session

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

The House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its Ninth Day, Second Regular Session on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 10:19 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.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Clerk. With all 20 members present we will proceed with our Order of Business. Thank you and before we proceed we are going to go on recess and allow the presentation of the resolution. Short recess.

The House recessed at 10:21 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 10:38 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Before we move on with our Order of Business, let me first recognize the Floor Leader for the proper motion.

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.

There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk to call the roll.

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 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, motion hereby carries. Thank you, members. Going down to

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Five individuals made comments pertaining to the following:

SEN. COMM. 20-93: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-21, SS1, SD1, entitled, “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.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

H. B. NO. 20-136

To amend Public Law 18-56 as codified in 4 CMC section 2308 (c) (2) to allow funds allocated from the Business Gross Receipts Tax to be available for appropriation by the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation without fiscal year limitation.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representative Edmund S. Villagomez)

Ms. Agnes McPhetres

Mr. Ross Manglona

Mr. Juan Sablan

Ms. Samantha Babauta
Mr. Garry Camacho

The Chair directed the members to item III, Adoption of Journals and recognized the Floor Leader.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

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

Eighth Day, Second Regular Session Journal – October 11, 2017

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the Eighth Day, Second Regular Session Journal – October 11, 2017 was carried by voice vote There was no nay vote.

The Chair directed the members to item IV, Introduction of Bills and recognized Representative Propst for the first introduction.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Bills:

Representative Edwin K. Propst officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. B. NO. 20-134

To amend Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) provisions regarding Qualifying Certificates.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

The Chair referred House Bill 20-134 to the Committee on Ways and Means and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.

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

H. B. NO. 20-135

To amend Public Law No. 20-11, Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Act to reflect the revised Fiscal Year 2018 Operations Budget for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Alice S. Igitol, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., and John Paul P. Sablan)

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection, pursuant to the testimony of the Executive Director of CUC this morning, I would like to request that in the interest of averting any disruption in services to the community that this bill be placed on today's Bill Calendar as the funds that are being amended in this particular budget for CUC are their own projected revenues and not revenues of the general fund. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Demapan and thank you for that information. Before we move on let me recognize the Floor Leader for the proper motion to place House Bill 20-135 on the 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 and to place House Bill 20-135 on the Bill Calendar was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized Representative Edwin K. Propst for the next introduction.

Representative Edwin K. Propst officially introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-136

To amend Public Law 18-56 as codified in 4 CMC section 2308 (c) (2) to allow funds allocated from the Business Gross Receipts Tax to be available for appropriation by the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation without fiscal year limitation.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representative Edmund S. Villagomez)

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I do ask that this bill move expeditiously. We did meet with Chairman Itibus and Minority Leader Ed Villagomez with the insurance companies and they are in full support of this. Last Friday they told us they are in support of it. We also have support from CHCC. So, I do ask kindly that this move as quickly as possible. Filed by myself and Minority Leader Ed Villagomez and open for others. Thank you.

The Chair referred House Bill 20-136 to the Committee on Ways and Means and recognized Representative Donald C. Barcinas for the next introduction.

Representative Donald C. Barcinas officially introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-137

To designate commonwealth parks and establish a CNMI Park System and to redesignate the Department and Division of Historic Preservation Office within the Department of Lands and Natural Resources; and for other purposes.

REP. DONALD C. BARCINAS of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

The Chair referred House Bill 20-137 to the Committee on Natural Resources and recognized Representative Edwin K. Propst for the next introduction.

Representative Edwin K. Propst officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. B. NO. 20-138

To amend 1 CMC §6424 to require all potential and certified candidates and their respective committees to fully disclose financial contributions and expenses one year before an election on a quarterly basis, and seven days before the date of the election; and for other purposes.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representative Vinson F. Sablan)

The Chair referred House Bill 20-138 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

The Chair officially introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-139

To amend Title 1, Division 2, Section 2807 to grant the Department of Public Land Secretary the authority to negotiate public land leases pursuant to his/her fiduciary, constitutional and statutory duties.

REP. RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Angel A. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Glenn L. Maratita, and John Paul P. Sablan)

The Chair referred House Bill 20-139 to the Committee on Natural Resources and recognized Representative Ivan A. Blanco for the next introduction.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. B. NO. 20-140

To repeal and reenact Title 3, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 3 of the Commonwealth Code, to designate the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs as the program administering authority for the respite services program; and for other purposes.

REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)

The Chair referred House Bill 20-140 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.

Representative Angel A. Demapan introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-141

To give the Department of Finance the authority to pay the obligated 25% retiree death benefit payments due to the survivors of CNMI deceased retirees.

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, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Demapan. The referral will be announced on a later date. Any other bills to be introduced? Recognize Representative Blanco.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-142

To amend 4 CMC §1402(c) to add a provision to exempt from excise tax traditional canoes imported into the CNMI when funded by a philanthropic organization for the primary purpose of improving the cultural and economic condition of the indigenous Chamorro and Rafaluwasch people.

REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Blanco. Again, that bill will be referred on a later date.

The Chair directed the members to House Local Bills and recognized Representative Edwin P. Aldan.

House Local Bills:

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

H. L. B. NO. 20-44

To re-appropriate One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000.00) from Section 2 (a) of Tinian Local Law 20-3; and for other purposes.

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

The Chair recognized Representative Ivan A. Blanco for the next introduction.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco officially introduced the following House Local Bill:

H. L. B. NO. 20-45

To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, 10 CMC §3511, by amending the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheet 20 of 29.

REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Jose I. Itibus, and John Paul P. Sablan)

The Chair recognized Representative Francisco C. Aguon for the next introduction.

Representative Francisco C. Aguon officially introduced the following House Local Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. L. B. NO. 20-46

To appropriate the sum of Two Million, Ninety-Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,092,000.00) from the Exclusive Gaming Annual License Fees allotted to the Third Senatorial District under 4 CMC §2307(c)(2); and for other purposes.

REP. FRANCISCO C. AGUON of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*, Representatives Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, and Alice S. Igitol, and Jose I. Itibus)

The Chair recognized Representative John Paul P. Sablan for the next introduction.

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

H. L. B. NO. 20-47

To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 to allow adult gaming machines to be operated in any zoning district where gaming machines are allowed.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Janet U. Maratita, and Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.)

The Chair recognized Representative John Paul P. Sablan for the next introduction.

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

H. L. B. NO. 20-48

To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map sheets 17, 23, and 27 of 29 to rezone certain districts to “Mixed Commercial”.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Janet U. Maratita, and Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.)

The Chair recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan for the next introduction.

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

H. L. B. NO. 20-49

To appropriate the sum of Six Million, Four Hundred Eight Thousand Dollars (\$6,408,000.00) from the Exclusive Gaming Annual License Fees allotted to the Third Senatorial District under 4 CMC §2307 (c)(2); and for other purposes.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. 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 for the first introduction.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

House Resolutions:

Representative Edwin K. Propst officially introduced the following House Resolution and request that the resolution be introduced by the Committee of the Whole:

H. RES. NO. 20-16

To honor and commend the late William R. Barrineau for the countless monumental contributions he has made to our beloved Commonwealth and to extend our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family on his untimely passing.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

Several members voiced “no objection”.

The Chair referred House Resolution 20-16 to the Bill Calendar for action and recognized Representative Alice S. Igitol for the next introduction.

Representative Alice S. Igitol officially introduced the following House Resolution and request that the resolution be introduced by the Committee of the Whole:

H. RES. NO. 20-17

To encourage the Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres to render his support, along with the House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, for the re-nomination of the Honorable Frances Tydingco-Gatewood to serve as Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court of Guam and to recognize her for her distinguished career.

REP. ALICE S. IGITOL of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*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, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

Several members voiced “no objection”.

The Chair referred House Resolution 20-17 to the Bill Calendar.

House Joint Resolutions: None

House Commemorative Resolutions: None

House Concurrent Resolutions: None

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 messages from the Governor:

GOV. COMM. 20-110: (9/29/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-31, S1, D1, (To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map to rezone certain lots from “Village Commercial” zoning districts to “Mixed Commercial” zoning districts; and for other purposes.) Became **Saipan Local Law 20-12** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-111: (10/3/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-30, D1, (To amend the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989 to provide for internet gaming; to amend casino license fee and tax rate; and for other purposes.) Became **Tinian Local Law 20-5** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-112: (10/6/17) Certifying and granting approval for Ms. Kastle A. Lund-Turner, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General to receive an annual salary of \$55,000. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-113: (10/16/17) Informing the House that he signed into law Tinian Local Bill NO. 20-1, D1, (Tinian Municipal Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2018.). Became **Tinian Local Ordinance 20-1**. [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-114: (10/16/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-23, (To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, 10 CMC §3511, by amending the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheet 19 of 29.) Became **Saipan Local Law 20-13** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-115: (10/16/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20- 18, (To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheet 06 of 29, rezoning lots 141 E 02 and 141 E 05 from “Village Residential” to “Tourist Resort” Zoning District.) Became **Saipan Local Law 20-14** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-116: (10/16/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-29, (To amend the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheets 05 of 29 to rezone certain lots from “Rural” zoning districts to “Tourist Resort” zoning districts.) Became **Saipan Local Law 20-15** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-117: (10/21/17 received 10/26/17) **Executive Order 2017-10** – 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. 20-118: (10/25/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-15, (Saipan Bingo Act of 2017) Became **Saipan Local Law 20-16** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-119: (11/1/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-66, (“To amend 1 CMC §8602(b), Law Enforcement Mandatory Drug Testing to eliminate the condition that testing is subject to the availability of funds.”). Became **Public Law 20-24** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-120: (11/1/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-20, HD1, (“To amend Title 9, Division 2, Chapter 1 § 2104 to provide veterans a discounted benefit for the vehicle registration fee; and for other purposes.”). Became **Public Law 20-25** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-121: (11/1/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, S. B. NO. 20-15, SD1, (“To establish a Regent Nominating Committee Process in the Selection and Appointment of Regents to the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents; and for other purposes.”). Became **Public Law 20-26** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-122: (11/1/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-41, (“To appropriate \$9,336.00 specifically allotted to the Second Senatorial District under Public Law No. 18-30 as amended; and for other purposes.”). Became **Tinian Local Law 20-6** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-123: (11/2/17) Informing the House that he vetoed H. B. No. 20-63, HS1, (To require test firing of all firearms as a prerequisite for registration of a firearm.). [**Deadline: 1/1/18**]

GOV. COMM. 20-124: (11/2/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. B. NO. 20-34, (“To repeal in part Section 3 of Public Law No. 19-42 and revive former 6 CMC § 2222(e) and its associated definitions.”). Became **Public Law 20-27** [*For info*]

GOV. COMM. 20-125: (11/14/17) Informing the House that he signed into law, H. L. B. NO. 20-33, D2, (“To appropriate up to One Hundred Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Nine US Dollars (\$116,469.00) of the Earned Bond Interest Income collected for the Second Senatorial District that has been identified by the Commonwealth Development Authority as available for appropriations; and for other purposes.”). Became **Tinian Local Law 20-7** [*For info*]

There was no discussion on this part of the agenda. The Chair directed the members to item VII, Senate Communications and recognized the Floor Leader.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Floor Leader made a motion to accept Senate Communications 20-86 to 20-104 so they may become property of the House.

SEN. COMM. 20-86: (10/25/17) Returning H. B. No. 20-12, (To reform drug sentencing laws to effectuate the rehabilitation and treatment principles of evidence-based sentencing.), which was passed by the Senate, without amendments on October 25, 2017. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 20-87: (10/25/17) Returning H. B. No. 20-14, (To improve the justice system's response to domestic violence, and for other purposes.), which was passed by the Senate, without amendments on October 25, 2017. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 20-88: (10/25/17) Returning H. B. No. 20-22, (To amend 1 CMC Section 1502 clarifying the activities subject to the Occupancy Tax.), which was passed by the Senate, without amendments on October 25, 2017. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 20-89: (10/25/17) Returning H. B. No. 20-18, (To amend 6 CMC §2256 (a) (10), the hours of operation for shooting galleries and shooting ranges; and for other purposes.), which was passed by the Senate, without amendments on October 25, 2017. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 20-90: (10/25/17) Returning H. B. No. 20-67, (To amend 1 CMC § 1402 for the purpose of the conservation and protection of the precious resource of sweet potato "Kamuti"; and for other purposes.), which was passed by the Senate, without amendments on October 25, 2017. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 20-91: (10/25/17) Informing the House that the Senate during its Seventh Day, Second Regular Session *filed* H. B. No. 20-33, entitled, "To amend 2 CMC § 4435(f) and to repeal 2 CMC § 4435(h) to expand the use of lease agreement payments to supplement housing assistance; and for other purposes." [*For Info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-92: (10/25/17) Returning H. B. NO. 20-10, entitled, "To establish the Settlement Fund Revolving Fund Account.", which was passed by the Senate with amendments on October 25, 2017, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-10, SD1**, to read: "*To establish the Settlement Fund Revolving Fund Account and the Bond Payment Revolving Fund Account; and for other purposes.*" [***For action on Senate amendments***]

SEN. COMM. 20-93: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-21, SS1, SD1, entitled, "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.", which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [***For action***]

SEN. COMM. 20-94: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-47, entitled, "To amend 2 CMC § 4372; to amend 2 CMC § 4376 to establish the Kastiya Agricultural Homestead Development in Tinian; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [***For action***]

SEN. COMM. 20-95: (10/25/17) Returning H. B. NO. 20-3, entitled, "To amend and repeal provisions of the Vehicle Code to allow for e-citation implementation; and for other purposes", which was passed by the Senate with amendments on October 25, 2017, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-3, SD1**. [***For action on Senate amendments***]

SEN. COMM. 20-96: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-24, SD1, entitled, "To amend 4 CMC § 50143(a) to provide immunity for minors assisting in

tobacco control undercover investigations; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-97: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-34, SS1, entitled, “To amend Section 302(a) of PL 19-75 to mandate CUC to immediately apply the subsidy to residential customer accounts upon the transfer of funds to CUC; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-98: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-36, SD1, entitled, “To regulate real estate transactions and brokers and agents in the CNMI and to require real estate licenses by adding a new Division 8 to Title 2 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-99: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-38, entitled, “To present to the voters in the Commonwealth in the next general election the question: “Shall there be a constitutional convention to propose amendments to the Constitution?””, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-100: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-52, SD1, entitled, “To improve medical referral services by making all the medical referral and liaison offices’ employment positions civil service positions and subject to the Civil Service Act; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-101: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-63, SD2, entitled, “To amend 4 CMC § 50144(b) to increase the penalty of business establishments that gives, sells, or permits to be given or sold any tobacco product to an individual under the age of 18; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-102: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-64, SD1, entitled, “To establish a State Directory of New Hires; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-103: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-65, SD1, entitled, “To establish a license suspension program for non-custodial parents who are in non-compliance with an order of support; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 20-104: (10/25/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-66, entitled, “To amend 6 CMC § 2138 to prohibit pharmacies in the Commonwealth from dispensing any prescription drugs to minors without the presence of a parent, legal guardian or an adult; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on October 25, 2017. [**For action**]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to accept Senate Communications 20-86 to 20-104 so they may become property of the House was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule IX, Section 8 and to place House Bill 20-10, SD1 reference to Senate Communication 20-92 on the Bill Calendar for action.

RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 8. Referral of Bills and Resolutions

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(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 and to place House Bill 20-10, SD1 on the Bill Calendar was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair referred the following accordingly:

Senate Communication 20-93 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-94 referred to Natural Resources

Senate Communication 20-95 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-96 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-97 referred to Public Utilities and Communications

Senate Communication 20-98 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-99 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-100 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-101 referred to Commerce and Tourism

Senate Communication 20-102 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-103 referred to Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Senate Communication 20-104 referred to Health

The Chair recognized Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that our good Executive Director from CUC and his management team are still here in the gallery. If there is no objection, I believe they're here in part to House Bill 20-135, which we have referred to the Bill Calendar and again with no objection and because we have a slew of Standing Committee Reports before us to go over. I would like to request whether we can move to the Bill Calendar and dispose of this legislation and then come back to House Communications and Standing Committee Reports and others? If there is no objection. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. We are heading towards item X, which is Communications from the Department and Agency. Once we are done with that we will go and entertain that request before we get to the Standing Committee. So, with your indulgence let us just finish the House Communication since it's very quick – very brief before we move on to the Bill Calendar for action.

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

There was no discussion on this part of the agenda.

HSE. COMM. 20-71: (10/25/17) From the Speaker informing all Members that he will be out of the Commonwealth on October 26, 2017 and will return on November 1, 2017 and designates Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita as Acting Speaker.

HSE. COMM. 20-72: (10/25/17) From Representative Guerrero informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth on October 26, 2017 and will return on November 1, 2017 and request to be excused from all scheduled meetings and session during his absence.

HSE. COMM. 20-73: (11/15/17) From the Speaker informing all Members that he will be out of the Commonwealth on November 16, 2017 and November 17, 2017, and designates Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita as Acting Speaker.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

There was no discussion on this part of the agenda.

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 20-7: (10/16/17 received 10/26/17) From the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Executive Director submitting amended FY 2018 CUC's Operation's Budget. [*For info*]

The Chair directed the members to item XVI, Bill Calendar and recognized the Floor Leader.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

None

BILL CALENDAR

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9.

RULE VII. COMMITTEES GENERALLY

Section 9. Committee Reports; Other documents

- (a) Standing or Special Committees shall submit a written report to the Speaker within 60 days from the date the matter was referred to the committee, unless a shorter or longer time is ordered by the Speaker pursuant to a decision by the House Leadership. Subcommittees shall submit reports on matters referred to them as prescribed by the Standing Committee Chair. Standing, special and conference committees shall submit their reports in writing and provide an electronic copy to the Clerk who shall number the reports consecutively in the order received, cause such reports to be reviewed for legal sufficiency, reproduced, and furnished each member of the House at least twenty-four hours prior to the session at which it is to be considered. A committee report shall state findings of facts and conclusions based thereon together with a specific recommendation as to the manner in which the bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the committee should be disposed of by the House. A report recommending a bill or resolution for passage shall clearly state the purpose of the bill. A report on a bill or resolution shall show clearly any proposed amendments and the Clerk shall place such a bill or resolution on the appropriate calendar.
- (b) A report shall be considered adopted by a committee when the Chairperson and a majority of the members of the committee have signed the report concurring therein. A member or members not concurring in the report of the majority may so indicate by submitting a minority report which shall be attached to the committee report or by signing with "I do not concur".
- (c) When a committee recommends that a bill or resolution be formally filed (indefinitely postponed), the recommendation is reported to the House floor as a committee report to be confirmed by majority vote. Adoption of the committee report by the members has the effect of officially filing the bill.
- (d) When, by majority vote, the House adopts a committee report recommending favorable action on a bill or resolution, the bill or resolution as reported by the committee shall be placed on the appropriate calendar for House floor action.
- (e) All documents, testimonies, or other evidence submitted to any standing or special committee or subcommittee in connection with any matter referred to the committee or subcommittee shall be the property of the House. The Chair of any committee or subcommittee shall deliver all such documents, testimonies, or other evidence to the House Clerk upon expiration of the term of the House. Such documents, testimonies or other evidence may be attached to committee reports as supporting documents.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule VII, Section 9 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

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

H. B. NO. 20-135

To amend Public Law No. 20-11, Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Act to reflect the revised Fiscal Year 2018 Operations Budget for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Alice S. Igitol, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., and John Paul P. Sablan)

There was no discussion, the Chair recognized the Clerk to call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-135 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 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 Bill 20-135 hereby passes the House. Thank you, members. Before we move on to our – on the Standing Committee, let me call for a short recess.

The House recessed at 11:23 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 12:07 p.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, members. Back from our recess. Prior to our recess we were on the Bill Calendar. Can we direct your attention to item XII, which is the Report of the Standing Committees. With that let me go ahead and ask the Floor Leader for the proper motion.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

S. C. R. NO. 20-78: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-113, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to establish a criminal provision for pedestrians crossing a road, highway, or crosswalk while using a mobile electronic device; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Public Utilities and Communications recommends the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 20-113, HD1.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-78 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-79: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-102, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to repeal and reenact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Gaming recommends the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 20-102, HD1.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-79 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-80: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-101, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC §8364, as amended by public law 15-70, to allow annuitants to enroll in the commonwealth government health insurance program; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Health recommends the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 20-101, HD1.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-80 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-81: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-121, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 6 CMC Section 2301(a)(9) to allow individuals to import used tires for personal use.” *Your Committee on Commerce and Tourism recommends the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. No. 20-121, HD1.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-81 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

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

S. C. R. NO. 20-82: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-126, entitled: “A Bill for an Act requiring certain financial institutions to post transaction fees for each automated teller machine transaction; restricting transaction fees for automated teller machines; and authorizing a study by the Secretary of Commerce to study the impact of such fees on financial institutions and consumers.” *Your Committee on Commerce and Tourism recommends the House pass **H. B. No. 20-126** in its current form.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to recommit Standing Committee Report 20-82 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-83: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-35, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC §§ 8245-8248 to increase compensation for appointed officials and increase the salary ceiling; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends the House pass the bill in the form of **H. B. No. 20-35, HD1**.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-83 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-84: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-36, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC § 8357, to reestablish the special annuity for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends the House pass the bill in the form of **H. B. No. 20-36, HD1**.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-84 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-85: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-59, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 9 CMC §4101 to require all vehicle headlights to project rays of white color and to require the headlights to be in compliance with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends the House pass H. B. No. 20-59 in its current form.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-85 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-86: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-132, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC §7406(a)(4) by including the Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control (ABTC) Division’s vehicles in the definition of “Law enforcement vehicle”.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends the House pass H. B. No. 20-132 in its current form.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-86 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-87: Reporting on S. B. No. 20-40, SD1, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 9 CMC § 2116 to provide for the identification of Disabled Veterans on the vehicle license plate; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends the House pass S. B. No. 20-40, SD1 in its current form.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-87 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 Standing Committee Report:

S. C. R. NO. 20-88: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-129, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to apply the Casino BGRT subsidy to the Fuel Adjustment Charge and the actual electrical usage of CUC customers.” *Your Committee on Public Utilities and Communications recommends the House pass the bill in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-129, HDI.***

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-88 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

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

S. C. R. NO. 20-89: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-50, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend the Commonwealth Code to provide for adequate regulation of the casino industry; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Gaming recommends the House pass the bill in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-50, HDI.***

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Discussion?

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Privilege Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Recognize Representative Propst.

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Thank you. As author of this bill, I kindly ask why is it being recommitted, Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Propst. The reason for that motion is to allow the Committee on Gaming to further review on the proposed measure. I thought I'd say that. Further?

There was no further discussion and the motion to recommit Standing Committee Report 20-89 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

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

S. C. R. NO. 20-90: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-82, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to clarify the powers of the Commonwealth Casino Commission and to make needed changes to the Commonwealth Code given the unique regulatory oversight of the Casino Industry in the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Gaming recommends the House pass the bill in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-82, HDI.***

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to recommit Standing Committee Report 20-90 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

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

S. C. R. NO. 20-91: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-125, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to generate funding for the repair and maintenance of CNMI roads and highways by increasing fees for registration of rental vehicles; and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends the House pass the bill in the form of H. B. NO. 20-125, HDI.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-91 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair directed the members to item XV, Resolution Calendar and recognized the Floor Leader.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

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

H. RES. NO. 20-16

To honor and commend the late William R. Barrineau for the countless monumental contributions he has made to our beloved Commonwealth and to extend our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family on his untimely passing.

REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Resolution 20-16 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Members as discussed earlier, we are going to have another session next week to address the remaining bills in the Bill Calendar. Also authors of legislations, I ask that you work with the respective chairs to get inputs for expeditious action on the proposed measure. Going down to item XVII, Miscellaneous. Recognize Representative Propst.

BILL CALENDAR

No action taken for the following legislations:

H. B. NO. 20-71, HS1

A Bill for an Act to make the Department of Lands and Natural Resources responsible for collecting the Managaha Fee and removing the Department of Public Lands as recipient of the Managaha Fees; and for other purposes. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-47]

H. B. No. 20-91

A Bill for an Act to exempt the residents of our neighboring island of Guam from the operator's license requirements by amending Title 9, Subsection 2203 Operator's License: Exemption from License. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-69]

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Representative Edwin K. Propst: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you colleagues. I'm just going to take a few minutes. I just wanted to mention something that I saw in the paper and wanted to thank one of our colleagues for brining up Chairman Ivan Blanco. I want to thank you for your willingness to conduct an oversight for the Department of Public Safety. I do want to clarify that this – I think some people have taken it out of context and think that it's going to be something that is adversarial or to try to assess a blame at anybody and I can assure you from my conversations with our good colleagues that it is not. It's really just a matter of public concern. So, I wanted the public to be aware of that. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, as you do know we're not unique to any other place, we do have our fair share of crime – unsolved murders and other things, but there has been a lot of grief with those families that have unsolved murders or missing people case in point the late Alan Boyer Dela Cruz in his memory several of us have spoken with the bereaved families and of course they like other families want justice for their brother, their son, their nephew and everything. We kindly ask of course the indulgence of DPS to do all they can to help with this murder that took place and for others. They took two months in the making to finally be known that it was a murder as the family expected, but what we do hope and I do know that this is a local matter but we do hope that the Department of Public Safety will consider using as much resources as they possibly can Mr. Speaker and colleagues. With that said to ask for the FBI to assist them in them in this investigation. I think that we should do everything we can to help all these families in these very difficult times. I thank you for your time and indulgence. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Propst. I also ask the Committee on JGO to please proceed with cautious. As you know some of these cases are very sensitive and for that reason, I ask you to be extra care when doing some inquiries in regards to – however, you may proceed with finding out their system in a case whether something like that whether they have a system in place, who to go to and if there is such a protocol with other counterparts. Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are still under Miscellaneous?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Yes.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to ask if the legislature have received any lease documents by DPL? And this is in regards to the lessee CMS rock quarry. As you know, two lots are already expired and they are on a month to month basis lease. I wanted to ask if we did receive any documents?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Yes, we did receive documents from DPL in that regards. Let me ask the Madame Chair for Natural Resources to elaborate on the next step of that. Recognized.

Representative Alice S. Igitol: Yes, Representative Guerrero. I am waiting for Chairman of the Senate Mr. Frank Borja. So, I am just waiting for him so we're going to have this joint meeting.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: You may.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Madame Chair, how long ago have you been tasked to meet with the Senate?

Representative Alice S. Igitol: In fact, I talked to him two-weeks ago, but he's off-island. So, he said he's leaving on the 14th and he'll be back.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Representative Deleon Guerrero, if I'm not mistaken, if everything falls into place the committee from the House side and the Senate will meet sometime next week.

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Madame Chair and Mr. Speaker, I yield for now.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Recognize Representative Sablan.

Representative Vinson Edward F. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker this will be quick. I want to take this time to thank Governor Torres for signing into House Bill 20-34 this is also known as the Handgun Prohibition Revival Act. This bill is now Public Law 20-27 and I also want to thank the House members and the Senate members for passing this bill. Just to clarify the public now – clarify some parts in the law – this does not affect the mandates and clauses of the Safe Act a law which were placed our initial firearms law. The Safe Act still stands, if you remember upon the decision rendered by the US District Court in favor of Radich, the decision made our initial firearms law moot. So, at the moment of that decision when it was decided on we had no firearms law, which created a state of emergency and everyone from the 19th Legislature that is still here remember we had to come in and expeditiously craft a firearms law which will cover the CNMI. So, what public law 20-27 does just for clarification to the viewing public it's the safety net law. So, all it does is if the decision is challenged – the Radich decision is challenged and is overturned then we automatically fallback into our initial firearms law. We don't have to come back and in a state of emergency try to craft another firearm law. So, that is all it does Safe Act still stands, it's still status quo and Public Law 20-27 just acts as a safety net bill in case in

the future any decision is overturned. So, I just wanted to state that to clarify to our viewing public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Sablan. Let me now recognize Representative Blanco.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the spirit of this Thanksgiving from my staff and my family, I want to wish everyone of you and your families including the LB staff and their families a Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Blanco. Recognize Representative Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just real quick to announce and congratulate the new Secretary of Labor Ms. Viky Benavente whose nomination was confirmed by the Senate this morning about the same time we were in session. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Further ready? Announcement? Recognize Representative Itibus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Jose I. Itibus: I would just like to extend an invitation to the staff of the legislature, the House members that this coming Sunday our church in Kristo Rai will be hosting its fiesta. The mass will start at 9:30 in the morning followed by procession and then lunch. House members and Senate if you guys are listing, please donate water. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Members, also tomorrow we are gathering here at 11:30 for Thanksgiving to appreciate our staff and of course everyone here for their continued hard work. So, tomorrow at 11:30 we are having a Thanksgiving gettogether. Further? Floor Leader for the adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Before I recognize that, let me just make a quick announcement. We will be having a session sometime next week after Thanksgiving to address some of those bills that are in the calendar.

With no further discussion the motion was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The House adjourned at 12:33 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: NONE

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY: NONE

*Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on
October 11, 2017:*

H. B. NO. 20-127: To amend 6 CMC §4102 by establishing higher mandatory sentences for crimes committed within the premises of schools and youth centers. Introduced by REP. VINSON F. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 4, (*for himself*, Representatives Donald C. Barcinas, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Glenn L. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on October 11, 2017; subsequently referred to Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

H. B. NO. 20-128: To amend 8 CMC §1202(a) to establish separate marriage license fees for residents and non-residents; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. JOSEPH LEE PAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on October 11, 2017; was moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

H. B. NO. 20-129: To apply the Casino BGRT subsidy to the Fuel Adjustment Charge and the actual electrical usage of CUC customers. Introduced by REP. FRANCISCO S. DELA CRUZ of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on October 11, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Public Utilities and Communications.

H. B. NO. 20-130: To repeal and reenact 3 CMC §4972(b) (1) to allow the Public School System to hire foreign national workers as classroom teachers for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), special education and related services; and for other purposes. Introduced by REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on October 11, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Education.

H. B. NO. 20-131: To appropriate Three Million Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand dollars (\$3,375,000.00) from the Tobacco Control Fund, earmarked under 3 CMC §2177, to support and supplement awareness, detection and prevention programs relating to cancer and other tobacco related illnesses. Introduced by REP. ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Edwin P. Aldan, Alice S. Igitol, Janet U. Maratita, and John Paul P. Sablan) on October 11, 2017; was moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

H. B. NO. 20-132: To amend 1 CMC §7406 (a) (4) by including the Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control (ABTC) Division's vehicles in the definition of "Law Enforcement vehicle". Introduced by REP. JOSEPH LEEPAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on October 11, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[Added-10/11/17] H. B. NO. 20-133: To rename Building P of the Northern Marianas College in As Terlaje Hill, Saipan, as the "Agnes Manglona McPhetres Administrative Building" in recognition of her untiring and outstanding contributions to the development of higher education in the Commonwealth; and for other purposes. Introduced by

REP. RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*) on October 11, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

C. RES. NO. 20-14: To commend the late Allegre Twelbang Magofna, also better known as “Bob Magofna” for his public services with the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Utilities Corporations and his International Services in the United States Arm Forces, “the United States Department of the Army. Introduced by REP. ALICE S. IGITOL of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*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, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on October 11, 2017; subsequently placed on the Resolution Calendar.

House information on deadlines for override:

GOV. COMM. 20-93: (9/26/17) Informing the House that he signed into law and line item vetoed in parts, H. B. No. 20-105, HD2, SD3, CCS1 (FY 2018 Budget Act). Became **Public Law 20-11, Item Vetoed [Deadline 11/25/17]**

GOV. COMM. 20-95: (9/22/17) Informing the House that he vetoed H. B. No. 20-44, HD2, (To amend 8 CMC §1202(a) to establish separate marriage license fees for residents and non-residents; and for other purposes). [**Deadline: 11/21/17**]

GOV. COMM. 20-96: (9/29/17) Informing the House that he vetoed S. B. No. 20-10, SD1, (To amend Title 4, Division 5, Chapter 13, to add section 50225 to suspend the Qualifying Certificate program in Saipan; and for other purposes.). [**Deadline: 11/28/17**]