



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2017

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

10th Day, Second Regular Session

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

The House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its Tenth Day, Second Regular Session on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 10:49 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 nineteen members were present; Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero was absent and excused.

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.

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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all 19 members voting in the affirmative, motion is hereby carried. Going down to item II, Public Comments, the podium is open. Again, I ask the speaker that you do have five-minutes to say statement has relevance to our Order of Business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individual made comments pertaining to the following:

H. J. R. NO. 20-7

To support the efforts of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Government and private sector in seeking legislative relief through amendments to U.S. Public Law 110-229 in order to continue the upward growth of the Commonwealth’s economy.

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, Alice S. Igitol, 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)

Mr. Alex Sablan

The Chair directed the members to item IV, Introduction of Bills and recognized Representative Alice S. Igitol.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

None

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Bills:

Representative Alice S. Igitol officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. B. NO. 20-143

To amend 1 CMC § 8265 (c) Public Employment definition of “Immediate Family Member”.

REP. ALICE S. IGITOL of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for herself*, Representatives Blas Jonthan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Angel A. Demapan, Janet U. Maratita, and John Paul P. Sablan)

The Chair referred House Bill 20-143 to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations and recognized Representative Glenn L. Maratita.

House Local Bills:

Representative Glenn L. Maratita officially introduced the following unnumbered House Local Bill:

H. L. B. NO. 20-___

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.

REP. GLENN L. MARATITA of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for himself*)

House Legislative Initiatives: None

The Chair directed the members to Introduction of Resolutions and recognized Representative Angel A. Demapan.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

House Resolutions: None

House Joint Resolutions:

Representative Angel A. Demapan officially introduced the following House Joint Resolution and request that the resolution be introduced by the Committee of the Whole:

H. J. R. NO. 20-7

To support the efforts of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Government and private sector in seeking legislative relief through amendments to U.S. Public Law 110-229 in order to continue the upward growth of the Commonwealth’s economy.

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, Alice S. Igitol, 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”.

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 Governor’s Communications:

GOV. COMM. 20-126: (11/21/17) Informing the House that he signed into law Tinian Local Bill NO. 20-2, D1, (Supplemental appropriation - Tinian Municipal Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2018.). Became **Tinian Local Ordinance 20-2**. [For info]

GOV. COMM. 20-127: (11/22/17) Informing the House that he vetoed H. B. No. 20-8, HS1, SD1, (To restrict the use of cellular/mobile telephones while driving vehicles; and for other purposes.). [**Deadline: 1/21/18**]

There was no discussion, 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 20-105 to 20-108 so they may become property of the House.

SEN. COMM. 20-105: (11/21/17) Returning H. B. No. 20-9, (To require all scuba dive shop operators to impose a \$10.00 surcharge per tank usage to purchase, install, operate, and maintain decompression chambers in the CNMI; and for other purposes.), which was passed by the Senate, without amendments on November 21, 2017. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 20-106: (11/21/17) Returning H. B. No. 20-131, HD1, (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.), which was passed by the Senate, without amendments on November 21, 2017. [*For info-Will go to Governor*]

SEN. COMM. 20-107: (11/21/17) Returning H. B. NO. 20-2, HD2, entitled, “To increase the excise tax on the importation of Areca Nut (Betel Nut) into the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate with amendments on November 21, 2017, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-2, HD2, SD1**. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

SEN. COMM. 20-108: (11/21/17) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-72, entitled, “To amend 8 CMC §1421(a); and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on November 21, 2017. [*For action*]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to accept Senate Communications 20-105 to 20-108 so they may become property of the House was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair referred Senate Communication 20-107 to the Committee on Ways and Means; Senate Communication 20-108 placed on the Bill Calendar for action.

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

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced the following House Communications:

HSE. COMM. 20-74: (11/24/17) From Representative Guerrero informing all members that he will be out of the Commonwealth on November 26 to December 3, 2017 and request to be excused from all scheduled meetings and session during his absence.

HSE. COMM. 20:75: (11/27/17) From Representative Igitol informing all members that she will be out of the Commonwealth on December 4 to December 8, 2017 and request to be excused from all scheduled meetings and session during her absence.

There was no discussion, 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. 20-92: Reporting on H. B. No. 20-19, entitled: “A Bill for an Act to amend 6 CMC §3156 (b) by requiring a hotel or resort attached to a golf course to have a minimum of eighteen (18) holes in order to be eligible to conduct electronic gaming activities as defined in 6 CMC §3156(a)(6).” *Your Committee on Gaming recommends the House pass H. B. No. 20-19 in its current form.*

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt Standing Committee Report 20-92 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair directed the members to item XV, Resolution Calendar.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Let me just say this to our audience. I do understand that you guys are here in regards to – I am very appreciative on your support on House Joint Resolution 20-7, however the House cannot act on this today and for the reason of meeting the OGA requirement. However, the House will go into session in about a week and on that session, we are going to entertain the House Joint Resolution, but for today we wish we could but we cannot because of OGA requirements. So, I thought I’d mention that. Floor Leader for the proper motion.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Can we take a short recess, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Short recess.

The House recessed at 11:06 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:27 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members and back from our recess. Prior to our recess, we were on item XV. Let me ask the Floor Leader that we go ahead and skip item XV, which is

the Resolution Calendar and we move down to item XV, which is the Bill Calendar. Floor Leader.

No action taken for the following:

H. RES. NO. 20-17

A House Resolution 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.

BILL CALENDAR

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

H. B. No. 20-101, HD1

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. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-80]

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 for the passage of House Bill 20-101, 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Clerk. With all 19 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-101, HD1 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

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

H. B. NO. 20-10, SD1

A Bill for an Act to establish the Settlement Fund Revolving Fund Account and the Bond Payment Revolving Fund Account; and for other purposes. *See* [SEN. COMM. 20-92]

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 for the passage of House Bill 20-10, Senate 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. With all 19 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-10, SD1 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10.

RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 9. First Reading of Bills and Resolutions

(a) When a bill or resolution is read in the House the first time, the Clerk shall report the bill by title, unless a majority orders it read in full, or by such subdivisions as the motion to read may indicate. The House shall then proceed to debate the measure, and amendments shall be in order. At the conclusion of a debate the House shall vote on passing the measure on First Reading after affording an opportunity for one motion to

recommit with or without instructions. If the Measure passes with amendments, the Clerk shall engross such amendments and cause the measure, or any page thereof, to be reprinted as provided in Sections 4 and 6 of this Rule. [Note: Rule IX, Section 9, amended by H. RES. 20-4]

(b) The First Reading of a bill without amendment shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

(c) If a bill passes First Reading with amendment, the Clerk shall place it on the Bill Calendar for Second Reading the next legislative day.

(d) First Reading of a resolution shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

Section 10. Second Reading of Bills

(a) When a bill is read in the House a second time, it shall be considered in the same manner as for First Reading, except that no further amendments shall be in order. [Note: Rule IX, Section 10, amended by H. RES. 20-4]

(b) Second Reading of a bill shall be the final reading, and upon its passage, which shall be by Call of the Roll, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 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. 20-129, HD1

A Bill for an Act to apply the Casino BGRT subsidy to the Fuel Adjustment Charge and the actual electrical usage of CUC customers. See [S. C. R. NO. 20-88]

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Again, your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Ready? Recognize Representative Angel Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, I would like to offer an amendment in the form of a substitute bill. I am hereby offering House Bill amendment to make this House Bill 20-129, HS1. The amendments which we will distribute shortly will make some changes to the same section that the original bill was addressing which is 4 CMC Section 2308. These changes – amendments that are being offered are in line with the NMI Settlement Fund in their communication to the Governor on November 20. The Settlement Fund disagrees with some of the provisions of Public Law 20-10, particularly provisions that relate to the 25% payment to retirees and for the annual end of the year bonus for retirees and their beneficiaries. So, there are some concerns that the Settlement Fund have raised in their communication to the Governor and suggested fixed resolution, we are offering that recommendation in the form of this amendment that would basically clarify the language pertaining to the Casino Gross Revenue tax funds that are generated for the 25% portion of the retirees pension and a portion of the funds that Public Law 20-10 originally earmarked for the retirees bonus but the settlement fund trustee ad litem is requesting that the language be changed to an appropriation. So, in light of the Settlement Funds concerns and to ensure that there is no further delay or no – down in the future

that there is no other obstacle to payout the retirees pensions and/or bonus, I am offering this floor amendment in the form of 20-129, HS1.

Representative Angel A. Demapan offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT TO H. B. NO. 20-129, HD1

H. B. No. 20-129, HD1 is amended by introducing a substitute bill in the form as attached hereto.

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

DATE: November 29, 2017 **OFFERED BY:** /s/ Rep. Angel A. Demapan

Reviewed by

/s/ House Legal Counsel John Cool

Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2017

Second Regular Session, 2017

H. B. 20-129, HS1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend 4 CMC §2308 to address concerns of the Settlement Fund Trustee and apply the Casino BGRT subsidy to the Fuel Adjustment Charge and the actual electrical usage of CUC customers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that the subsidy provided by the Gross Revenue Tax should be used to subsidize the Fuel Adjustment Charge as well as the electrical usage charge for CUC customers.

The Legislature further finds that 4 CMC §2308 should be amended to address the concerns of the Settlement Fund Trustee.

Section 2. Amendment. Title 4, Division 2, Tourism, Chapter 3, Article 1, section 2308 of the Commonwealth Code is hereby amended as follows:

“§ 2308. Disposition of Gross Revenue Tax. The Secretary of Finance shall establish a special Casino Gross Revenue Tax (CGRT) Account separate from the general funds. The funds in the Casino GRT Account shall not lapse and not subject to fiscal year limitation. In addition, the Secretary of Finance shall keep a record of the casino CGRT funds allocated pursuant to subsections (a) and (b). Notwithstanding 4 CMC §§ 1802 and 1804 or any other laws, gross revenue tax generated from a license holder under this chapter shall be deposited in the special ~~Casino~~ GRT Account, and shall be appropriated by the Legislature, unless otherwise specifically provided in this section, for the following purposes:

- (a) The first \$22,000,000 of the ~~funds deposited into the CGRT Account after the beginning of each calendar year generated shall be earmarked and continuously appropriated, not subject to fiscal year limitation, available for appropriation by the Legislature to cover or supplement the payment of 25% of class members' full benefits and any cost of living allowance or annual retirement bonus approved by the NMI Retirement Fund. of all the retirees of the First, Second, and Third Senatorial Districts. The Secretary of Finance shall be the expenditure authority;~~
- (b) After the amounts required pursuant to subsection (a) is satisfied, the balance of the ~~casino gross revenue tax~~ CGRT Account generated shall be recorded, maintained, and accounted for to be reserved for appropriation by the Legislature for ~~the any of the~~ following purposes:
- (1) For the Fuel Adjustment Charge (FAC), formerly called LEAC, Rate Subsidy Account. The Secretary of Finance shall establish a FAC Rate Subsidy Account. A portion of the gross revenue tax generated from a casino licensed under this chapter shall be deposited in this account shall be used primarily to subsidize the FAC as well as those amounts due and payable by the consumer as a result of the actual electrical usage of said consumer that would otherwise be passed on to residential utility customers;
 - (2) For the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation;
 - (3) For the Medical Referral Program;
 - (4) For the payment of land compensation judgments;
 - (5) For the Public School System;
 - (6) For the Northern Marianas College; and
 - (7) For the Northern Marianas Trades Institute.
- (c) \$7,500,000 of the funds in the ~~Casino~~ GRT Account each of the Fiscal years 2017 and 2018 shall be reserved and placed in a special subaccount for expenditure in 2018 for the purposes set forth in 4 CMC § 2307; and
- (d) The Secretary of Finance shall report to the presiding officers of the legislature the expenditure of the funds allotted in subsection (a) and the amount reserved under subsection (b) within 30 days after the end of each quarter.”

Section 3. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or becoming law without such approval.

Prefiled: 10/6/17

Date: 10/6/17

Introduced by: /s/ Rep. Francisco S. Dela Cruz _____

Reviewed for legal sufficiency by:

/s/ Joseph L.G. Taijeron, Jr.
House Legal Counsel

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Angel. Your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that floor amendment. Recognize Representative Dela Cruz.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to clarify a couple of things. First of all, the mover of the amendment perceives that this is a substitute bill rather than an amendment to the bill. So, I wish to clarify that it may not be a substitute bill, but rather an amendment to the bill. The other question that I have and maybe this is for the Legal Counsel is whether the language because I believe there are certain amendments to be offered and whether any of these amendments are not germane to the actual bill itself and the language that it provides.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Counsel, you may respond.

Legal Counsel John Cool: The original amendment was to subsection b of 4 CMC 2208. This is just an additional an additional amendment to the same section 2308 and it relates to basically the same matter, the separate account and the allocation of the account and the purposes for which funds could be appropriated by the legislature. So, an amendment of this nature would be appropriate.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Further discussion on the amendment? Are we ready? Recognize Representative Angel.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Mr. Speaker, the amendment is being copied at the moment so the members haven't had a chance to see the final version. If Counsel can pull it up on the ELMO so we can save time and the hard copies can be coming shortly.

Legal Counsel John Cool: So, the substitute bill is basically a restatement of Section 3208, which is the first part of it establishes the special account. There's no change to have other than the abbreviation in the Senate version with GRT and we have to see to make it the casino GRT. The next major change is to subsection (a), the original version of subsection (a) and House Bill 20-10. The purpose was to allocate the first \$22 Million Dollars that is deposited into the casino gross revenue tax account and basically dedicate that money to paying the 25% reduction of retirement benefits. The way that the section was written in Public Law 20-10 it re-earmarked the same funds that were earmarked into the casino gross revenue tax account, so it was a double earmarking. In second, it only provided for a single \$22 Million Dollar payment and not an annual \$22 Million Dollars reservation. The third thing that it did is that limited the bonus it just said just bonus. We had it here the name from the retirement fund act the annual retirement bonus it limited it to retirees of the First, Second and Third Senatorial District. The trustee was concerned because it didn't cover all beneficiaries of the settlement trust. It didn't cover any off-island retirees or beneficiaries other than retirees. So that limitation or restriction was taken out.

Section (b) the original provision, again re-earmarked the casino gross revenue tax rather than basically earmarking the funds and the casino gross revenue accounts. So, it's changed back to the funds that are in the casino gross revenue tax account in access with the \$22 Million are available for appropriation by the legislature for any of the following purposes. There's the change to the fuel adjustment charge to include the entire consumer bill and not just the – so that's the language from the original House Bill 20-129.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Counsel. Further discussion? Recognize Representative Dela Cruz.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we need to do some subsidiary amendments. Most especially in clarifying what CUC customers are. It should be clarified to state that CUC residential customers wherever it appears on the bill so it's not mistaken to give credit to commercial and either governmental entities for the subsidies. We want to be clear that this is strictly for CUC residential customers and if that is a subsidiary motion I may offer.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Let us have a short recess to make sure that we – short recess.

The House recessed at 11:46 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:53 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess. Prior to our recess, Chairman Dela Cruz still have the floor. Can you restate your subsidiary motion?

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, this is just to insert the word “residential” wherever “CUC customers” may appear such as the title and the findings of the bill. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the subsidiary motion offered by Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Now back to the floor amendment provided by Representative Angel Demapan. Further discussion? Ready?

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

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Back to the main motion. Further discussion as amended? Ready? Clerk for the roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-129, House Draft 1, House Substitute 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Clerk. With all 19 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-129, HD1, HS1 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

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 Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

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

S. B. NO. 20-72

To amend 8 CMC §1421(a); and for other purposes. *See* [SEN. COMM. 20-108]

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 for the passage of Senate Bill 20-72 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Clerk. With all 19 members voting in the affirmative, Senate Bill 20-72 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10.

RULE IX. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 9. First Reading of Bills and Resolutions

(a) When a bill or resolution is read in the House the first time, the Clerk shall report the bill by title, unless a majority orders it read in full, or by such subdivisions as the motion to read may indicate. The House shall then proceed to debate the measure, and amendments shall be in order. At the conclusion of a debate the House shall vote on passing the measure on First Reading after affording an opportunity for one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Measure passes with amendments, the Clerk shall engross such amendments and cause the measure, or any page thereof, to be reprinted as provided in Sections 4 and 6 of this Rule. *[Note: Rule IX, Section 9, amended by H. RES. 20-4]*

(b) The First Reading of a bill without amendment shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

(c) If a bill passes First Reading with amendment, the Clerk shall place it on the Bill Calendar for Second Reading the next legislative day.

(d) First Reading of a resolution shall be the only and final reading, and upon its passage, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

Section 10. Second Reading of Bills

(a) When a bill is read in the House a second time, it shall be considered in the same manner as for First Reading, except that no further amendments shall be in order. *[Note: Rule IX, Section 10, amended by H. RES. 20-4]*

(b) Second Reading of a bill shall be the final reading, and upon its passage, which shall be by Call of the Roll, the Clerk shall dispose of it pursuant to Section 14 of this Rule.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to suspend Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 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. 20-91

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]

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Motion was seconded. Discussion? Recognize Representative Blanco.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you can direct your attention to the ELMO.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Counsel.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: I offer this floor amendment as shown on our ELMO. The amendment is basically based on recommendations that were provided about two or three sessions ago while in Rota. So, based on those recommendations I went ahead and offer this for your consideration. So move.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT TO H. B. NO. 20-91

H. B. No. 20-91 is amended as follows:

- I. Delete Section 2, Page 2, lines 5 to Page 3, line 2.
- II. Page 2, Line 5 is amended to read as follows:

“Section 2. Amendment. Title 9, Division 2, Section 2208 is amended by adding the following new subsection (i):

“(i) Processing Exemption – Guam Operator’s License. A person in his or her immediate possession of a valid driver’s license issued by the Territory of Guam who shoes proof of U.S. Citizenship and proof of having held a valid Guam drivers license for no less that one year may exchange his or her license for a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island operator’s license in conformity with the provisions of the Commonwealth Real ID Act. The individual shall pay for all fees associated with the issuance and or renewal of a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands operator’s license.”

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

DATE: November 21, 2017

OFFERED BY: /s/ Rep. Ivan A. Blanco

Reviewed by

/s/ House Legal Counsel John Cool

The motion was seconded.

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

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 20-91, 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: With 19 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-91 as amended hereby passes the House. Recognize the Floor Leader.

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

H. B. No. 20-59

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. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-85]

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 for the passage of House Bill 20-59 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
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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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: With all 19 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-59 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

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

S. B. No. 20-40, SD1

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. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-87]

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 for the passage of Senate Bill 20-40, Senate 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: With all 19 members voting “yes,” Senate Bill 20-40, SD1 hereby passes the House. Floor Leader.

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

H. B. No. 20-121, HD1

A Bill for an Act to amend 6 CMC Section 2301(a)(9) to allow individuals to import used tires for personal use. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-81]

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 for the passage of House Bill 20-121, 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: With all 19 members voting “yes,” House Bill 20-121, HD1 passes the House. Floor Leader.

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

H. B. No. 20-102, HD1

A Bill for an Act to repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-79]

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 for the passage of House Bill 20-102, 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. Again, with all 19 members voting “yes,” House Bill 20-102, HD1 passes the House. Floor Leader.

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

H. B. NO. 20-125, HD1

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. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-91]

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 for the passage of House Bill 20-125, 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: With 19 members voting “yes,” House Bill 20-125, HD1 passes the House. Floor Leader.

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

H. B. No. 20-132

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”. See [S. C. R. NO. 20-86]

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 for the passage of House Bill 20-132 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	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 19 members present voted “yes.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Clerk. Again, with all 19 members voting “yes,” House Bill 20-132 hereby passes the House. Members the rest of the bill will be entertained on our next session. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Mr. Speaker, if I may would like to ask the indulgence of the members if we can go back to item IV, just to make some corrections on the earlier introduction that I’ve made.

Several members voiced “no objection”.

There was no action taken for the following legislation:

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. 20-113, HD1

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. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-78]

H. B. No. 20-35, HD1

A Bill for an Act to repeal and reenact 1 CMC §§ 8245-8248 to increase compensation for appointed officials and increase the salary ceiling; and for other purposes. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-83]

H. B. No. 20-36, HD1

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. *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-84]

H. B. No. 20-19

A Bill for an Act to amend 6 CMC §3156 (b) by requiring a hotel or resort attached to a golf course to have a minimum of eighteen (18) holes in order to be eligible to conduct electronic gaming activities as defined in 6 CMC §3156(a)(6). *See* [S. C. R. NO. 20-92]

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Without any objections, we are now under item IV, recognize the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Upon the Legal Counsels recommendation based on the caption or the title of the local bill that I introduced earlier, I

would like to withdraw that local bill and introduce it as a House Bill so that it coincides with the proper citation on the code.

Representative Glenn L. Maratita officially introduced the following House Bill:

H. B. NO. 20-144

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.

REP. GLENN L. MARATITA of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for himself*)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. That House Bill 20-144 will be referred to JGO. Thank you. So that takes care of our Introduction of Bills on item IV. We now go back to item XVII, Miscellaneous Business. None. XVIII, Announcements? Recognize Representative Angel Demapan.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’m just going to announce that it’s Representative – Chairman Blanco’s birthday today. Happy birthday and of course the beautiful women of the House who celebrated their birthday yesterday.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Demapan. Further? A couple of announcement I would like to make. In a couple of days I will issue notice for our next session. Hopefully, if not next week early next week notice will be issued sometime this week. Further announcement? Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: *Ahi pot ilék-mu* a couple of announcements *kaoguahta’lo otro*.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: I wanted to – I know that we – Christmas is fast approaching. I thought I’d remind the members about our Christmas gettogether. Maybe I’ll ask Jessica to coordinate with the members so we can get together before Christmas on the exact date. Recognize.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are we still having the SCDC presentation tomorrow and what time?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Yes, I did issue out a notice for the meeting tomorrow with the members. Alex Sablan and his team will be here tomorrow to enlighten the members on the ongoing works and situation with the CW issue. So, we are scheduled to meet with them tomorrow at 10 a.m. so that we can also – the legislature can also be appraised on what they have done and what they plan to do and also perhaps also provide inputs from a legislative standpoint. Further announcement? Ready? Floor Leader.

ADJOURNMENT

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: At this time Mr. Speaker, I move to adjourn subject to your call.

*The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.
The House adjourned at 12:16 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. 20-45: To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, 10 CMC §3511, by amending the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheet 20 of 29. Introduced by REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Jose I. Itibus, and John Paul P. Sablan) on November 21, 2017.

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. Introduced by 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.) on November 21, 2017.

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”. Introduced by 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.) on November 21, 2017.

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY:

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on November 21, 2017:

H. B. NO. 20-134: To amend Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) provisions regarding Qualifying Certificates. Introduced by 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) on November 21, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. Introduced by 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) on November 21, 2017; was moved and placed on the Bill Calendar.

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. Introduced by REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representative Edmund S. Villagomez) on November 21, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. Introduced by 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) on November 21, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

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. Introduced by REP. EDWIN K. PROPST of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representative Vinson F. Sablan) on November 21, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

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. Introduced by 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) on November 21, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

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. Introduced by REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on November 21, 2017; subsequently referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations.

[Added-11/21/17] 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. 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, 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) on November 21, 2017.

[Added-11/21/17] 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. Introduced by REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*) on November 21, 2017.

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. Introduced by REP. EDWIN P. ALDAN of Tinian, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) on November 21, 2017.

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. Introduced by REP. IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Jose I. Itibus, and John Paul P. Sablan) on November 21, 2017.

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. Introduced by 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) on November 21, 2017.

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. Introduced by 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.) on November 21, 2017.

[Added-11/21/17] 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”. Introduced by 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.) on November 21, 2017.

[Added-11/21/17] 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. Introduced by 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)

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. Introduced by REP. EDWIN K. PROPST 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, Angel A. Demapan, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on November 21, 2017; moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.

[Added-11/21/17] 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. 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 November 21, 2017; moved and placed on the Resolution Calendar.

House information on deadlines for override:

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**]