



AMENDED
February 15, 2017

THE SENATE
TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
1 st Day	Wednesday, February 15, 2017 SENATE CHAMBER, SAIPAN	1:15 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

- A. ROLL CALL** – All nine members present
- B. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ms. Zenie Mafnas regarding SCR 20-01 Borja, Frank Lee CDA-Tinian
- RECESS: 1:20 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. [Presentation of SR 19-56]**
- C. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL:**
1. **SJ 20-01** – Organizational Session - 01/09/17 - ADOPTED
- D. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:**
1. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-01:** January 12, 2017 – Signed into law, H.B. No. 19-189, SS1 - To repeal and reenact 4 CMC Division 2, Chapter 2, eliminating the different types of concessions created by Public Law 4-60 and empowering the Commonwealth Ports Authority to grant concessions for Commonwealth ports and to determine the scope of the concessions that it grants, and for other purposes, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-76**.
 2. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-02:** January 16, 2017 - **Vetoed** H.B. No. 19-173 - To amend 4 CMC § 1205(c) by adding a new subsection (9) allowing an educational tax credit for donations to the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society; and for other purposes.
 3. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-03:** January 14, 2017 - Signed into law, H.B. No. 19-118, HD1 - To amend Title 4 Economic Resources, Division 3 Businesses and Professions, Subsection §3103 Board of Professional Licensing Tenure; Officers; Vacancies; becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-77**.
 4. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-04:** January 14, 2017 - Signed into law, H.B. No. 19-186, HD1 - To repeal and reenact certain sections of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Act; to establish a Board of Trustees which shall managed and control the operations, functions and activities of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation; becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-78**.

5. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-05:** January 16, 2017 - Signed into law, H.B. No. 19-80, HD1 –To establish rules for the creation, removal and operation of special parking zones and parking meter zones; and for other purposes, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-79.**
6. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-06:** January 16, 2017 - Signed into law, H.B. No. 19-81 – To amend 6 CMC §1601(b) to include elderly citizens and people with disabilities, and establish a set of punishments for theft committed against them; and for other purposes; becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-80.**
7. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-07:** January 13, 2017 – Assumption of Authority, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios Acting Governor from January 14, 2017 to January 21, 2017.
8. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-08:** January 16, 2017 – Executive Order 2017-01 – Declaration of a State of Significant Emergency – CUC.
9. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-09:** January 20, 2017 – **Vetoed** H.B. No. 19-132, HD1 – To require all contractors to be licensed in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
10. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-10:** January 20, 2017 – Signed into law, H.B. No. 19-158, HD2 – To compensate private landowners whose properties were taken for public purposes and for court judgments, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-81.**
11. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-11:** January 20, 2017 – Signed into law, H.B. No. 19-85, HD2, SD1 – To amend Title 6, Division 3, Chapter 1, Article 4 of the Commonwealth Code to establish a regulation to prohibit smoking in vehicles when in the presence of minors; and for other purposes, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-82.**
12. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-12:** January 20, 2017 – H.B. No. 19-3, HS1, HD1 - To enact a new base salary schedule for classified civil service government employees pursuant to 1 CMC Sections 8124(g) and 8133 and to increase the salary ceiling for classified civil service government employees and to amend 1 CMC § 8244 and 1 CMC § 1271 to increase the compensation for the Governor, Lt. Governor and members of the Legislature, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-83** on January 20, 2017 without the Acting Governor’s signature.
13. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-13:** January 27, 2017 – Certification for annual salary in excess of \$50,000 to Mr. Charles Brasington, AAG to receive \$57,000 per annum.
14. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-14:** January 27, 2017 – Certification for annual salary in excess of \$50,000 to Ms. Teri C. Tenorio, AAG to receive \$65,000 per annum.
15. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-15:** January 27, 2017 – Signed into law H.B. No. 19-141, HD1, SS1 – To amend 4 CMC § 5559(b) and 6 CMC §3110(b) with respect to the I.D. Card requirements; and for other purposes; becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-84.**
16. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-16:** February 03, 2017 – NMC Board of Regents membership nomination process.
17. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-17:** February 06, 2017 – Request for the State of the Commonwealth Address on March 31, 2017.
18. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-18:** February 08, 2017 – Nominated Dr. Larry B. Hocog to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Board of Trustees representing the First Senatorial District.
19. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-19:** February 08, 2017 - Nominated Mr. William M. Cing to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Board of Trustees representing the Second Senatorial District.

20. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-20:** February 06, 2017 – Signed into law S.B No. 19-22 – To establish a new public highway, Route 205, on the Island of Tinian; and for other purposes, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-85**.
21. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-21:** February 06, 2017 – Signed into law S.B No. 19-110 – Mandating the Division of Customs to conduct K-9 unit drug detections for all inter-island commuter flight entries and seaport entries in the effort to combat drugs within the Commonwealth by amending 6 CMC § 2304 to add a new subsection (d); and for other purposes, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-86**.
22. **Gov. Msg. No. 20-22:** February 08, 2017 – Signed into law H.B. No. 19-213 – To amend PL 19-75 Section 302(e) to name the parties covered by the appropriation for the payment of judgments, becomes **PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-87**.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIARY: (NONE)

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT :

1. **Dept. Msg. No. 20-01:** January 12, 2017 – Office of Management & Budget (OMB) submitting 1st Quarter report of Vacant Holding Account for FY 2017.
2. **Dept. Msg. No. 20-02:** February 07, 2017 – Special Assist. for Substance Abuse & Rehabilitation establishment of a substance abuse “residential” program.
3. **Dept. Msg. No. 20-03:** January 31, 2017 – Homeland Security & EMO on FirstNet Initiatives.

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSE: (NONE)

H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE:

1. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-01** – January 9, 2017 – 20th Senate informing the Governor and Speaker of the 20th House of Representatives that the Senate is duly organized and ready to conduct business.
2. **Sen. Comm. No 20-02** – January 09, 2017 – Appointment of Legislative Bureau Director, Mr. Antonio P. Sablan.
3. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-03** – January 10, 2017 – Appointment of Chairs for the Senate Standing Committees.
4. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-04** – January 11, 2017 – 20th Senate informing Mayors of Saipan, Northern Islands, Rota and Tinian & Aguiguan including Chairman of the Saipan Municipal Council that the Senate is duly organized and ready to conduct business.
5. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-05** – January 17, 2017 – Senator Hofschneider’s off-island notice.
6. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-06** – January 16, 2017 – Appointment of Senate Vice-President Mesngon as Acting Senate President.

7. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-07** – January 17, 2017 – Senator Mesngon’s off-island notice.
8. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-08** – January 17, 2017 – Appointment of Senator Francisco Borja as Acting Senate President.
9. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-09** – January 17, 2017 – Senator Cruz off-island notice.
10. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-10** – January 17, 2017 – Senator Quitugua’s regarding members on Rules and Procedures and Education and Youth Affairs Committees.
11. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-11** – January 22, 2017 - Senate President Palacios off-island and delegation of authority notice from January 22 – February 07, 2017.
12. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-12** – January 23, 2017 – Senate President Palacios requesting the Chairman of Health & Welfare Committee to meet with CHCC and Stake holders regarding PL 19-78.
13. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-13** – January 23, 2017 – Senator Cruz’s off-island notice.
14. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-14** – January 26, 2017 – Senator Manglona’s off-island notice.
15. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-15** – January 27, 2017 – Appointment of Health and Welfare Committee members.
16. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-16** – January 27, 2017 – Appointment of Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee members.
17. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-17** – January 30, 2017 – Senator Santos’s off-island notice.
18. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-18** – February 03, 2017 – Appointment of JGL Committee members.
19. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-19** – February 03, 2017 – Appointment of EAGI Committee members.
20. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-20** – February 01, 2017 – Senator Quitugua’s off-island notice.
21. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-21** – February 08, 2017 – Reassignment of FRIA Chairperson.
22. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-22** – February 06, 2017 – Appointment of REDP Committee Members.
23. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-23** – February 09, 2017 – Joint presentation by National Park Service on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 10 a.m., House Chamber.
24. **Sen. Comm. No. 20-24** – February 09, 2017 – EAGI Chairman regarding additional committee member.

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE WASHINGTON DELEGATE: (NONE)

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (NONE)

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

1. **Senate Bill No. 20-01:** To establish a Department of Revenue and Taxation; and for other purposes. (SEN. ARNOLD I. PALACIOS – 01/10/17)
2. **Senate Bill No. 20-02:** To establish the Office of Planning and Development; and for other purposes. (SEN. ARNOLD I. PALACIOS – 01/10/17)
3. **Senate Bill No. 20-03:** To amend 1 CMC §§ 2261(b) and 2262(a), to limit the public high school student representative to the Board of Education to one year and rotated appointment by Senatorial District; and for other purposes. (SEN. JUSTO S. QUITUGUA – 01/23/17)
4. **Senate Bill No. 20-04:** To establish CNMI Group Life Insurance basic life benefits at two times the annual salary of the employee or retiree; and for other purposes. (SEN. JUSTO S. QUITUGUA – 01/25/17)
5. **Senate Bill No. 20-05:** To authorize certain government employees and retirees to continue to participate in the CNMI Government Group Life Insurance Program after they separate from government service; and for other purposes. (SEN. JUSTO S. QUITUGUA – 01/25/17)
6. **Senate Bill No. 20-06:** To amend 4 CMC § 1411(a) to earmark 50% of the environmental beautification tax to the Solid Waste Management Program to pay for critical landfill renovations and upgrades of the Marpi Landfill; and for other purposes. (SEN. ARNOLD I. PALACIOS – 01/19/17)
7. **Senate Bill No. 20-07:** To amend 2 CMC § 4435(f) repeal 2 CMC § 4435(h); and for other purposes. (SEN. ARNOLD I. PALACIOS – 01/20/17)
8. **Senate Bill No. 20-08:** To enable the CNMI to participate in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education's Professional Student Exchange Program; and for other purposes. (SEN. JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER – 01/27/17)
9. **Senate Bill No. 20-09:** To amend 1 CMC Section 8117(i); and for other purposes. (*Civil Service Req AA 2 yrs exp credit*) (SEN. JUSTO S. QUITUGUA – 01/30/17)
10. **Senate Bill No. 20-10:** To amend Title 4, Division 5, Chapter 13, to add section 50225 to suspend the Qualifying Certificate program in the Third Senatorial District; and for other purposes. (SEN. JUSTO S. QUITUGUA – 01/30/17)
11. **Senate Bill No. 20-11:** To amend 4 CMC § 1503 to authorize the third senatorial district to establish additional fees for electronic gaming machines licensed pursuant to PL 18-30; and for other purposes.) (SEN. JUSTO S. QUITUGUA – 02/02/17)
12. **Senate Bill No. 20-12:** To amend 2 CMC §§ 4308 and 4345(e), to authorize the Department of Public Lands to waive requirement that the homesteader must construct a home on the homestead upon a showing that the construction permit cannot be obtained because of the lack of power, water, or waste water infrastructure; and for other purposes. (SEN. FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ – 02/07/17)
13. **Senate Joint Resolution No. 20-01:** Authorizing the Marianas Visitor's Authority to set a new compensation and wage salary scale for its employees pursuant to 4 CMC § 2124(g). (SEN. JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER AND SEN. STEVE K. MESNGON – 02/08/17)

- 14. **Senate Bill No. 20-13:** To waive the Northern Marianas College tuition for a veteran with 30 percent or greater service-connected disability; and for other purposes. (SEN. FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ – 02/08/17)
- 15. **Senate Bill No. 20-14:** To amend 6 CMC § 2253, to limit the number of shooting gallery and shooting range; amend section 2256(a)(10), shooting gallery and shooting range operation time; and for other purposes. (SEN. FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ – 02/08/17)
- 16. **Senate Bill No. 20-15:** 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. (SEN. JUSTO S. QUITUGUA – 02/10/17)

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

- 1. SJR 20-02 – State of the Commonwealth Address
- 2. SB 20-16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

M. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- 1. **Standing Committee Report No. 20-01:** From the Committee on Executive Appointments & Governmental Investigations reporting on the appointment of Mr. Frank Lee SN. Borja to serve as a member of the CDA Board of Directors to represent Tinian. (ADOPTED)

RECESS: 1:55 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.

N. REPORTS OF SPECIAL/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: (NONE)

O. RESOLUTION CALENDAR:

- 1. SJR 20-02 – ADOPTED

P. BILL CALENDAR:

FIRST READING

LEG. NO.	TITLE

FINAL READING

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>

Q. PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

1. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-01** – January 11, 2017 – LB Legal Counsels regarding a legislative member may serve on a Commission.
2. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-02:** January 12, 2017 – LB Director Sablan submitting the LB and Youth Congress quarterly funds status report on expenditures.
3. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-03:** January 16, 2017 – Mayor of Saipan comments on DPL’s final action on lease with Docomo Pacific (Saipan) Inc.
4. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-04:** January 17, 2017 – Commonwealth Casino Commission to Chairman on Gaming – 20th House of Representatives.
5. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-05:** January 25, 2017 – OPA’s report on CNMI Agencies implementation of Audit recommendations.
6. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-06:** January 10, 2017 – From Sen. Michael F.Q. San Nicolas congratulating Senate President Arnold I. Palacios.
7. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-07:** January 10, 2017 – Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation 20th Officers.
8. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-08:** January 2017 – MPLT 2015 Annual Report.
9. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-09:** January 30, 2017 – Karidat’s income statement and expenditures for quarter ending December 2016.
10. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-10:** January 26, 2017 – Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) appointment of Committee Chairs.

- 11. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-11:** February 06, 2017 – Tinian & Aguiguan Legislative Delegation (TALD) appointment of the 20th Officers.
- 12. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-12:** January 18, 2017 – Latte Training Academy to meet with Legislators regarding their program for the community.
- 13. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-13:** January 24, 2017 – LB regarding financial impact on PL 19-83 – Salary hike on elected officials.
- 14. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-14:** January 27, 2017 – MPLT FY 2015 Audit.
- 15. **Misc. Comm. No. 20-15:** NMTI’s request for three mini buses for Saipan High Schools.

R. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

S. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

T. ADJOURNMENT at 2:48 p.m.

APPEARANCE OF SENATE LOCAL BILLS

LEG. NO.	<u>TITLE</u>
	None

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