



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2010

AGENDA

SESSION DAY	CALENDAR DAY	TIME
1st Day, First Special Session	Tuesday, April 27, 2010	2:00 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Moment of Silence

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Four individuals from the Public School System presented verbal testimony on HB 17-65.

- 3. ADOPTION OF JOURNALS - None**
- 4. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

A. House Bills:

H. B. 17-54

To repeal Public Laws 14-80, 15-65, 15-106, 15-110, and 16-39; To suspend funding for Public Law 15-109; To appropriate the funds deposited in the Tobacco Control Fund pursuant to Public Law 13-38; and for other purposes.

By: **REP. ELICEO D. CABRERA** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself) *Referred to Committee on Ways and Means*

H. B. 17-58

To reform the qualifying certificate program by repealing and reenacting Chapter 13, Division 5, Title 4 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes.

By **REP. JOSEPH P. DELEON GUERRERO** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself, Representatives Cabrera, Dela Cruz, Joseph Palacios, Sablan and Tebuteb) *Referred to Committee on Commerce and Tourism*

H. B. 17-59

To amend 3 CMC Title 3, Division 1, Chapter 3, §1312, "The Postsecondary Education Act of 1984".

By **REP. STANLEY T. MCGINNIS-TORRES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Joseph M. Palacios, Raymond D. Palacios, Basa, and Dela Cruz) *Referred to Committee on Education*

H. B. 17-60

To amend the Revenue and Taxation Act of 1982 to provide a tax incentive for individuals and businesses to donate to the public facilities of the Commonwealth.

By **REP. TERESITA A. SANTOS** of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) Referred to Committee on Ways and Means and Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. 17-61

To eliminate fees for the maintenance of small parcels of public land.

By **REP. TERESITA A. SANTOS** of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

H. B. 17-62

To reprogram one million (\$1,000,000.00) from appropriations under section 2(b) of Public Law 13-56 for the renovation and rehabilitation of abandoned municipal buildings; and for other purposes.

By **REP. TRENTON B. CONNER** of Tinian and Aguiguan, Precinct 6 (*for himself*) Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. 17-63

To impose a six month deadline for private property taken under eminent domain to be properly processed and legally consummated.

By **REP. TERESITA A. SANTOS**, of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

H. B. 17-64

To require that the Inter-Agency One-Start Earthmoving and Erosion Control Permit for areas of less than five hectares be reviewed and approved by the respective agencies in the senatorial district in which the permit originated.

By **REP. TERESITA A. SANTOS**, of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*) Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. 17-65

To implement a seventy (70) hour government pay period; and for other purposes.

By **REP. STANLEY T. MCGINNIS-TORRES** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*)
WITHDRAWN

H. B. 17-66

To reform the Commonwealth's election statutes to conform with federal requirements.

By **REP. RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (for himself)

H. B. 17-67

To amend the Open Government Act to ensure that government operations are not unduly burdened by vexatious requests; to ensure that government operations are not unduly disrupted; and for other purposes.

By **REP. RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN** of Saipan, Precinct 2 (for himself)

H. B. 17-68

To increase the limits for medical school professional scholarships.

By **REP. FROILAN C. TENORIO** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

H. B. 17-69

To amend 8 CMC Section 1331(g) and to repeal and re-enact 8 CMC Section 1332 pertaining to divorce or dissolution of marriages; and for other purposes.

By **REP. GEORGE N. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

B. House Local Bills:

H. L. B. 17-12:

To reappropriate funds from Rota Local Law 15-4 and Rota Local Law 15-6; and for other purposes.

By **REP. TERESITA A. SANTOS** of Rota, Precinct 7 (*for herself*)

H. L. B. 17-14

To repeal the appropriation and to re-appropriate the unexpended funds from Saipan Local Law 15-12, Section 2(f).

By **REP. SYLVESTRE I. IGUEL** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

H. L. B. 17-15

To re-appropriate \$80,000.00 from section 2(b)(8) and (10) of Saipan Local Law 16-4; and for other purposes.

By **REP. GEORGE N. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*, Representative Cabrera and Iguel)

H. L. B. 17-16

To name an existing unnamed road.

By **REP. FROILAN C. TENORIO** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

C. House Legislative Initiatives:

5. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

A. House Resolutions:

H. RES. 17-8

Respectfully urging the Governor to require all recipients of housing allowances to lease/rent apartments and/or houses that are financed through the Commonwealth Development Authority, Marianas Public Land Trust, or Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's loan programs.

By **REP. JOSEPH M. PALACIOS** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself, and Representative Cabrera)

H. RES. 17-9

To recognize and commend the Mount Carmel High School Mock Trial participants in their triumphant victory at the Commonwealth-wide 2010 Mock Trial Competition held at the Guma Hustisia on February 26-27, 2010.

By **REP. DIEGO T. BENAVENTE** of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself, Representatives Cabrera, Conner, Dela Cruz, Joseph Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Palacios, Sablan, Tebuteb and Yumul*)

H. RES. 17-10

To commend and congratulate the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band for their many achievements and outstanding performance at the New York International Music Festival.

By **REP. GEORGE N. CAMACHO** of Saipan, Precinct 4 (*for himself*)

B. House Joint Resolutions:

C. House Commemorative Resolutions:

D. House Concurrent Resolutions:

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

GOV. COMM. 17-64: (3/25/10) Certifying that the position of Security Guard II at the Rota Health Center is vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-65: (3/25/10) Certifying that three positions for Dispatcher I and one position for Criminal Records Assistant at the Department of Public Safety are vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-66: (3/25/10) Certifying that one positions for Account Clerk I and two positions for Account Clerk II at the Department of Finance are vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-67: (4/1/10) Submitting the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2011 (\$132,565,000 available for appropriation).

GOV. COMM. 17-68: (4/1/10) Certifying that two positions at the Division of Agriculture, DLNR are vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-69: (3/25/10) Certifying that the position of Chief of Civil Division, AGO, is vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-70: (3/25/10) Certifying that three positions within the Department of Public Works are vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-71: (4/1/10) Certifying that the positions of CRM Administrator, Senior Policy Advisor and Special Assistant for Program & Legislative Review are vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-72: (4/1/10) Certifying that the positions of Administrative Assistant, Dental Assistant, and Environmental Health Trainee II within Department of Public Health are vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-73: (4/1/10) Certifying that the position of Tax Technician II, Division of R&T, Department of Finance is vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-74: (4/1/10) Certifying that the position of Manager for Respiratory Care Services at the Department of Public Health is vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-75: (4/1/10) Certifying and granting approval for Dr. Richard Herbert Landess, Ph. D. (Psychology) to receive an annual salary in excess of \$50,000.

GOV. COMM. 17-76: (4/1/10) Certifying that the position of Technical Advisor, Building Safety Code, at the Department of Public Works is vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-77: (4/5/10) Certifying that the position of Compliance Specialist at the Department of Public Lands is vacant and must be filled.

GOV. COMM. 17-78: (4/8/10) From Acting Governor Eloy Inos informing the House that he signed into law H. L. B. 17-4, D2 (To rename a portion of an existing road in Susupe). *[Became Saipan Local Law 17-1]*

GOV. COMM. 17-79: (4/1/10) Certifying that the position of Highway Administrator at the Department of Public Works is vacant and must be filled.

7. SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

SEN. COMM. 17-23: (3/29/10) Transmitting for House action S. L. I. NO. 17-4, SD1, entitled, "A Senate Legislative Initiative to propose a constitutional amendment to Article XII Sections 3 and 5 of the CNMI Constitution to change the term permanent and long-term interests in real property and to change the definition of an NMD corporation", which was passed by the Senate on March 12, 2010. **[For action]**

SEN. COMM. 17-24: (4/19/10) Returning H. B. 17-45, HD6, entitled, "To implement a seventy (70) hour government pay period; and for other purposes," which was passed by

the Senate with amendments on April 16, 2010, in the form of **H. B. 17-45, HD6, SS1, SD1**, to read: *“To implement unpaid legal holidays for the remaining FY2010; to impose revenue generating measures; and for other purposes.”* [**For action on Senate amendments**]

SEN. COMM. 17-25: (4/19/10) Transmitting for House action S. L. I. NO. 17-05, SD1, entitled, “To propose a constitutional amendment to Article III section 5 of the CNMI Constitution to change the salary reduction limitations when austerity holidays or other reduced work hour legislation is applied to government workers,” which was passed by the Senate on April 16, 2010. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 17-26: (4/19/10) Transmitting for House action S. L. I. NO. 17-06, SD1, entitled, “To propose a constitutional amendment to Article II section 10 of the CNMI Constitution to change the salary reduction limitations when austerity holidays or other reduced work hour legislation is applied to government workers,” which was passed by the Senate on April 16, 2010. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 17-27: (4/19/10) Transmitting for House action S. L. I. NO. 17-07, SD1, entitled, “To propose a constitutional amendment to Article IV section 6 of the CNMI Constitution to change the salary reduction limitations when austerity holidays or other reduced work hour legislation is applied to government workers,” which was passed by the Senate on April 16, 2010. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 17-28: (4/19/10) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 17-01, entitled, “To amend the Commonwealth Code to allow public employees to appear as an advocate or attorney for another person before a Commonwealth governmental entity; and for other purposes,” which was passed by the Senate on April 16, 2010. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 17-29: (4/19/10) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 17-16, entitled, “To empower and define the authority, duties, responsibilities, and functions of the Marshals Service Division of the CNMI Judicial Branch; and for other purposes,” which was passed by the Senate on April 16, 2010. [**For action**]

SEN. COMM. 17-30: (4/14/10) Transmitting for House action **S. B. NO. 17-18**, entitled, “To amend subsection (d) of section 8122 of Title Four of the Commonwealth Code to merely clarify an ambiguity regarding the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation’s authority to set rates until such time as the Public Utilities Commission shall issue an order setting rates, fees, charges or rents for a utility service; and for other purposes,” which was passed by the Senate on February 26, 2010. [**For action**]

8. HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

HSE. COMM. 17-28: (4/22/10) From Representative Santos informing the Speaker that she will be off-island from April 25-30, 2010, and authorizing Floor Leader Camacho to formally introduced her prefiled legislations.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH - None

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 17-7: (3/29/10) From Mr. Mike Pai, Public Auditor, to Speaker Tenorio regarding the Senator's monthly allowance.

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 17-8: (3/23/10) From Mr. Edward M. Deleon Guerrero, CPA Executive Director, to the Presiding Officers of the 17th Legislature requesting for an amendment to H. B. NO. 17-45 to exempt the CPA.

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 17-9: (3/25/10) From Ms. Bernie B. Dela Cruz seeking Speaker Tenorio's support to assist in defraying costs for the participants and coaches of the 26th Annual Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition.

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 17-10: (4/8/10) From Mr. Thomas J. Camacho, Chairman, CNMI Juvenile Justice Task Force providing a position statement of H. B. 17-17.

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 17-11: (4/17/10) From Ms. Pamela Sablan, CDD Executive Director, writing in support of H. B. 17-43 (Office of Transit Authority).

DEPT./AGCY. COMM. 17-12: (4/21/10) From Thomas J. Camacho, Special Assistant for Disability Policy & Programs, commenting on H. B. 17-36 (Parking in a space reserved for the use of persons with disabilities).

11. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS - None

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

S. C. R. 17-8: Reporting on H. B. 17-38, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to amend 2 CMC Title 2, Division 1 Chapter 3, § 1301 *et seq.*, "The Nuclear and Chemical Free Zone Act of 1983". *Your Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications recommends that the House pass H. B. 17-38 in its current form.*

S. C. R. 17-9: Reporting on H. B. 17-19, entitled, "A Bill for an Act to amend 2 CMC § 4335; and for other purposes." *Your Committee on Natural Resources recommends that the House pass H. B. 17-19 in its current form.*

S. C. R. 17-10: Reporting on S. B. NO. 17-4, entitled, "To amend 6 CMC 3154 and 3156(1)(3); and for other purposes." *Your Committee on Commerce and Tourism recommends that the House file S. B. NO. 17-4.*

13. REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES - None

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

15. RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Resolution	Subject	Action
H. RES. 16-7	A House Resolution to amend the Official Rules of Procedure of the House of the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.	

16. BILL CALENDAR

Bill/Initiative	Subject	Action
H. B. 17-26	A Bill for an Act to impose an excise tax on the sale of imported bottled drinking water; and for other purposes. <i>[No public comments were received in a open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 3/11/10]</i>	
H. B. 17-28	A Bill for an Act to empower and define the authority, duties, responsibilities and functions of the Marshal Service Division of the CNMI Judicial Branch; and for other purposes. <i>[No public comments were received in a open and public meeting when the legislation appeared on the House Agenda of 3/11/10]</i>	

17. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(ADJOURNMENT)

APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS

FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY: 1st Legislative appearance of a local bill is on the day it is introduced.

SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY:

H. L. B. 17-13:

To amend 10 CMC § 3921(c) and (e), and 3927; and for other purposes.

By: **Rep. Felicidad T. Ogomoro** of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for herself)

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY: NONE

**Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on
3/31/10:**

H. B. 17-49:

To implement a Five Percent Budgetary reduction; and for other purposes.

By REP. JOSEPH P. DELEON GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself, Representatives Dela Cruz, Benavente, Conner, Tebuteb, Cabrera, Sablan and Yumul) on March 31, 2010, was referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. 17-50:

To reduce and eliminate the rebate of the Northern Marianas Territorial Income Tax.

By REP. FROILAN C. TENORIO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself) Representatives Basa, Ogumoro, Villagomez and Iguel) on March 31, 2010, was referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. 17-51:

To amend Title 4 Sections 51401 and 51405 of the Commonwealth Code as established by Public Law 15-36 to impose a moratorium on all copper transactions; and for other purposes.

By: REP. STANLEY T. MCGINNIS-TORRES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for himself) on March 31, 2010.

H. B. 17-52:

To add Section 4120 of Title 6 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes.

By: REP. STANLEY T. MCGINNIS-TORRES of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for himself) on March 31, 2010, was referred to Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

H. B. 17-53:

To reprogram \$818,965.83 from Appropriations under section 5(c)(3) of Public Law 11-119 for the construction of the Kagman Wastewater Treatment Plant, collection and transmission system; and for other purposes.

By: REP. RAMON S. BASA of Saipan, Precinct 5 (for himself) on March 31, 2010, was referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. B. 17-55:

To provide for the regulation and control of the operation of gambling enterprises in the Municipality of Saipan.

By REP. FROILAN C. TENORIO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself), on March 31, 2010, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism

H. B. 17-56:

To provide for the establishment, regulation, and control of casino gambling in the Third Senatorial District (Saipan and the Islands North of Saipan); and for other purposes.

By REP. FROILAN C. TENORIO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (for himself) on March 31, 2010, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism

H. B. 17-57:

To establish a Northern Marianas Descent Registry within the Office of the Commonwealth Election Commission.

By: REP. FELICIDAD T. OGUMORO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for herself) on March 31, 2010, was referred to the Committee on Health and Welfare

H. L. B. 17-13:

To amend 10 CMC § 3921(c) and (e), and 3927; and for other purposes.

By: REP. FELICIDAD T. OGUMORO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for herself) on March 31, 2010,

H. C. R. 17-1:

A House Concurrent Resolution to amend House Concurrent Resolution 16-4 to reduce the revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as transmitted in the Governor's Special Budget Message on the Decrease in Revenue Estimates for Fiscal Year 2010, beginning October 1, 2009, and ending on September 30, 2010 which was dated March 09 2010.

By REP. RAY N. YUMUL of Saipan, Precinct 3 (for himself, Representatives Cabrera, Joseph Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Palacios, Dela Cruz, Benavente, Torres, Tebuteb, and Sablan) on March 31, 2010, was referred to Committee on Ways and Means