



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 2018

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

3rd Day, Third Regular Session

Friday, February 16, 2018

The House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened its Third Day, Third Regular Session on Friday, February 16, 2018 at 9:50 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 Jose I. Itibus was absent and excused.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Let the record reflect that Representative Jose Itibus is hereby excused. With 19 members present, we will proceed with our Order of Business for today. Let me now recognize 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 for a roll call vote.

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

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 to amend the agenda for today is hereby carried. Thank you, members. Now moving down to item II, Public Comments. Anyone who wishes to comment on any of the items on today’s agenda, you may do so. The podium is right up front. Appears to be none, so with that we will go ahead and proceed to item III, Adoption of Journals. Let me recognize the Floor Leader.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

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

First Day, Third Regular Session Journal – January 26, 2018

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the First Day, Third Regular Session Journal – January 26, 2018 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair directed the members to item IV, Introduction of Bills and recognized Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Bills:

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero officially introduced the following House Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. B. NO. 20-154

To amend 4 CMC §2103 to enhance Marianas Visitors Authority's promoting capabilities in attracting tourists to visit the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

REP. JOSEPH LEEPAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Lee Pan. The referral of that unnumbered bill will be announced later. Any other member? Recognize the Vice Speaker.

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

H. B. NO. 20-155

To require all Commonwealth governmental entities to submit an annual "Citizen-Centric Report" of their activities.

REP. JANET U. MARATITA of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for herself*, and Representative Alice S. Igitol)

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Vice Speaker. Again, that unnumbered bill will be referred on a later date. Any other member? Recognize Representative Attao.

Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao: If I am in order Mr. Speaker, if there's no other member that will be introducing any other House Bill, I have a unnumbered House Local Bill.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Before we move on to that any other bill to be introduced under the House Bill? Appears to be none. You may proceed Representative Attao.

House Local Bills:

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

H. L. B. NO. 20-57

To require all future developments within the Third Senatorial District to have the necessary infrastructure prior to request for any rezoning of an area; and for other purposes.

REP. BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Donald C. Barcinas, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinson F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez)

The Chair recognized Representative John Paul P. Sablan.

Representative John Paul P. Sablan officially introduced the following House Local Bill and welcomed the members to coauthor the bill:

H. L. B. NO. 20-58

To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, 10 CMC §3511, by amending the Saipan Official Zoning Map Sheet 19 of 29.

REP. JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, and Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero)

House Legislative Initiatives: None

The Chair directed the members to item V, Introduction of Resolutions and recognized Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

House Resolutions:

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero officially introduced the following House Resolution and requests that the resolution be introduced by the Committee as a Whole:

H. RES. NO. 20-19

To respectfully encourage the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) to approve the request for services of China Eastern Airlines to provide air transportation services between the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport (SPN) and the Shanghai Pudong International Airport (PVG) on a regular scheduled basis and to respectfully request the Administration to render their support of such request.

REP. JOSEPH LEEPAN T. GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*)

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Lee Pan Guerrero. And without any objection, House Resolution 20-19 is placed on today’s Resolution Calendar. Any other resolution to be introduced? Recognize Representative Aldan.

House Joint Resolutions: None

House Commemorative Resolutions: None

House Concurrent Resolutions: None

Representative Edwin P. Aldan: Mr. Speaker, if I may and with the indulgence of the members, I would like to request to go back on House Local Bill Mr. Speaker.

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Aldan. Without any objection again, we will go back to House Local Bills. You may proceed Representative Aldan.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House Local Bills:

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

H. L. B. NO. 20-59

To appropriate \$81,000.00 from the local license fees collected for pachinko slot machines and poker machines in the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.

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

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

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Clerk announced the following Messages from the Governor:

GOV. COMM. 20-161: (2/2/18 received 2/5/18) Informing the House of his re-nomination of Mr. James Diego I. Benavente to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) representing Third Senatorial District. [*Deadline: 5/6/18*]

GOV. COMM. 20-162: (2/2/18 received 2/5/18) Informing the House of his nomination of Mr. Benjamin Huk Lunag Borja to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) representing Second Senatorial District. [*Deadline: 5/6/18*]

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Clerk. Under Governor's Communication 20-161, I will jointly refer this communication to the House Committee on JGO and PUC. Under Governor's Communication 20-162 this communication will be referred to JGO and again PUC. Any comment under the Governor's Communication? Ready? Going down to item VII, Senate Communication. Let me now recognize the Floor Leader.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Floor Leader made a motion to accept Senate Communication 20-127 to 20-139 so they may become property of the House.

SEN. COMM. 20-127: (2/2/18) Returning H. J. R. No. 20-8 (A House Joint Resolution to support the passage of S.2325, the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Work Force Act, introduced by Senator Lisa Murkowski in the Senate of the United States Congress.), which was adopted by the Senate, without amendments on February 2, 2018. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-128: (2/5/18) Returning H. B. NO. 20-102, HD1, entitled, "To repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes.", which was passed by the Senate with amendments on February 2, 2018, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-102, HD1, SS1**. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

SEN. COMM. 20-129: (2/5/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-86, SD1, entitled, "To rename the Port of Tinian/Tinian Harbor, The "Honorable Jose Pangelinan

San Nicolas Commercial Port of Tinian”; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on February 2, 2018. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-130: (2/5/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-90, entitled, “To amend 1 CMC §1610(a); and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on February 2, 2018. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-131: (2/6/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-18, SD1, entitled, “To require employers to pay CNMI prevailing wages to employees; to mandate government contractors to pay prevailing wages for public works projects; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on February 2, 2018. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-132: (2/5/18) Returning H. B. NO. 20-88, HD1, entitled, “To repeal and re-enact “The Education Act of 1988” as amended and as codified as 3 CMC § 1101 through § 1193; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate with amendments on February 2, 2018, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-88, HD1, SD3**. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

SEN. COMM. 20-133: (2/7/18) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 20-20 entitled, “To congratulate and commend the U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (JROTC) Stallion Battalion of Tinian High School for their outstanding achievements and exemplary performance in earning the “Honor Unit with Distinction” award.”, which was adopted by the Senate on February 2, 2018. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-134: (2/7/18) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 20-22 entitled, “To express heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family of the Late Concepcion Olopai Igisomar on her untimely passing and to memorialize her selfless service to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”, which was adopted by the Senate on February 2, 2018. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-135: (2/7/18) Transmitting a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 20-23 entitled, “To recognize and commend the Chamorro Hands in Education Links Unity (CHE’LU) Organization for their continuous contributions to the community in their efforts to preserve and promote the Chamorro culture and language.”, which was adopted by the Senate on February 2, 2018. [*For info*]

SEN. COMM. 20-136: (2/9/18) Transmitting for House action S. B. NO. 20-23, entitled, “To permit the issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds/Industrial Development Bond by the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands government for the benefit of private sector development in alignment with documented CNMI priorities; and for other purposes.”, which was passed by the Senate on February 8, 2018. [*For action*]

SEN. COMM. 20-137: (2/9/18) Returning H. B. NO. 20-70, entitled, “To clarify sections 20129 and 20130 relating to the CNMI Veterans Cemetery.”, which was passed by the Senate with amendments on February 8, 2018, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-70, SD1**. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

SEN. COMM. 20-138: (2/9/18) Returning H. B. NO. 20-140, HD1, entitled, “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.”, which

was passed by the Senate with amendments on February 8, 2018, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20-140, HD1, SD1**. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

SEN. COMM. 20-139: (2/9/18) Returning H. B. NO. 20-147, HS1, HD1, entitled, “To appropriate twenty-four million, twenty-six thousand, fifty-six dollars and thirty-five cents (\$24,026,056.35) from the Special Casino Gross Revenue Tax Account, earmarked under 4 CMC §2308.”, which was passed by the Senate with amendments on February 8, 2018, in the form of **H. B. NO. 20- 147, HS1, HD1, SD4**. [*For action on Senate amendments*]

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to accept Senate Communications 20-127 to 20-139 so they may become property of the House was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

The Floor Leader made a motion to place Senate Communications 20-128, 20-129, 20-130, 20-132, 20-137, 20-138, and 20-139 on the Bill Calendar.

The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the motion to place Senate Communications 20-128, 20-129, 20-130, 20-132, 20-137, 20-138, and 20-139 on the Bill Calendar was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

The Chair referred the following accordingly:

*Senate Communication 20-131 referred to Ways and Means
Senate Communication 20-136 referred to Ways and Means*

The Chair called for a short recess.

The House recessed at 10:04 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 10:11 a.m.

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. 20-93: (2/2/18) From Representative Angel A. Demapan, informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth beginning Saturday, February 3, 2018

and returning on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 and request to be excused from any meetings or sessions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 20-94: (2/8/18) From Representative John Paul P. Sablan, informing the Speaker that he will be out of the Commonwealth beginning Sunday, February 11, 2018 and returning on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 and request to be excused from any meetings or sessions during his absence. [*For info*]

HSE. COMM. 20-95: (2/13/18) From Representative Vinson F. Sablan, informing the Speaker and Members that on February 12, 2018 he has officially and legally changed his name from Vinson Edward Flores Sablan to *Vinnie Vinson Flores Sablan*. [*For info and records*]

There was no discussion, the Chair directed the members to item XV, Resolution Calendar and recognized the Floor Leader.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

None

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

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

H. RES. NO. 20-19

A House Resolution to respectfully encourage the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) to approve the request for services of China Eastern Airlines to provide air

transportation services between the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport (SPN) and the Shanghai Pudong International Airport (PVG) on a regular scheduled basis and to respectfully request the Administration to render their support of such request.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Floor Leader. Your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Lee Pan Guerrero.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a floor amendment to House Resolution 20-19.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: You may proceed.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero offered the following floor amendment:

Floor Amendment

To: House Resolution No. 20-19

Offered By: Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero

AMENDMENT

House Resolution No. 20-19 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- Page 4
 - Line 4:
 - **Insert** “**WHEREAS**, knowledgeable of the forthcoming employment statuses that current Delta Air Lines employees are facing, China Eastern Airline is capable to provide employment to these highly suitable employees due to their experience in the airline industry and their familiarity with the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport; and”

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

Date: February 16, 2018

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero

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

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Guerrero. Motion has been seconded, discussion on that motion?

Ready

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back to the main motion, further discussion?

Several members voiced “ready.”

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt House Resolution 20-19, HD1 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

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

BILL CALENDAR

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

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]

The motion was seconded.

Under discussion, the Chair recognized Representative Ivan A. Blanco.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I may, I would like to offer a very simple amendment.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT TO H. B. NO. 20-71, HS1

H. B. No. 20-71, HS1 is amended as follows:

- I. Page 2, lines 3, is amended to read:
“commercial carrier from any of embarkment from Saipan in the Commonwealth
and”

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

Date: February 16, 2018

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Ivan A. Blanco

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

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. The floor amendment provided by Representative Blanco has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Guerrero.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: With that in mind Mr. Speaker, I have another floor amendment to the bill itself.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Representative Guerrero. We might have to dispose first of the – then you provide a subsidiary floor amendment. Further discussion?

Several members voiced “ready.”

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.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: You may proceed Representative Guerrero.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a subsidiary floor amendment to House Bill 20-71, HS1, HD1.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: I apologize. Can we have a short recess.

The House recessed at 10:21 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 10:22 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess. Representative Guerrero, you may proceed.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT TO H. B. NO. 20-71, HS1, HD1

H. B. No. 20-71, HS1, HD1 is amended as follows:

- I. Page 3, lines 15 after the word “claims” insert “and judgment against the CNMI government.
- II. Page 3, line 19 after the word “remaining” delete “10” insert “45”

- III. Page 3, line 20 after the letter “(b)” delete “(i)”
- IV. Page 3, line 21 delete “(iii) 35% shall be deposited into the Managaha Island Land and User Fee Trust Account.”

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

Date: February 16, 2018

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero

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

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Demapan.

Representative Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is more of a clarification from the mover. Now that we’ve added judgments against the CNMI government on Section (i) there on line 15, just to clarification on line 16 where another 15% goes to the payments of judgements against the CNMI government. So, there’s a duplication of payments to CNMI – to judgments against the government here. Just clarifying if it’s the intent of the mover to allocate 65% in total.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you for that question. Mover of the floor amendment.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Technically it’s going to reflect – if I’m not mistaken – 50% of that Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: 50?

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: On (ii). Short recess, Mr. Speaker.

The House recessed at 10:25 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 10:32 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Back from our recess. Representative Guerrero, you may proceed.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recall the first floor amendment and introduce the correct floor amendment to House Bill 20-71, HS1, HD1.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT TO H. B. NO. 20-71, HS1, HD1

H. B. No. 20-71, HS1, HD1 is amended as follows:

- V. Page 3, lines 20 through 22, are amended to read:
 “deposited into the fund established under §1622 (b)(i), and (iii) 35% shall be deposited into the Managaha Island Land and User Fee Trust Account.”
- VI. Page 4, line 1, add the following new section:
 “**Section 3. Repealer.** Public Law 13-16 is an Appropriation Act, Section 3 (b) of Public Law 13-16 is an administrative provision which expired with the expiration of Public Law 13-16. Certain Departments are treating Section 3 (b) of Public Law 13-16 as if it continues to exist. To avoid further confusion, Section 3(b) of Public Law 13-16, to the extent it exists, is repealed.”

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

Date: February 16, 2018

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero

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

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Guerrero. Motion again has been seconded. Discussion on that floor amendment?

Several members voiced “ready.”

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back to the main motion. Further discussion? Recognize Representative Vinny Sablan.

Representative Vinny Vinson F. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is for John the Legal Counsel. The letter from the Department of Public Lands stating that this bill is unconstitutional and void. Could you touch on that? Give us your legal thoughts. Is the intent of the bill in harmony with Article XI and does this go against the CNMI Constitution?

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

Legal Counsel John Cool: It’s in harmony with the Constitution it does not violate the Constitution. In this particular case, the only reason the landing fee was being paid to the

Department of Public Lands is because the original act said that the fee should be paid to public lands. At the time that that was enacted, public lands was the Division of Public Lands under Lands and Natural Resources and the only reason that the funds did go to public lands is because the statute says they go to public lands. The public lands enabling act says that “any money that’s received goes to the Department of Public Lands” it goes into their basically the trust account for operations and this is only putting it backwards should have been in the first place when the money go into Lands and Natural Resources under their authority to administer the submerged lands. If that’s what we’re having here is we’re having people, tourists transfer over the submerged land for the Commonwealth to get from one point to another or getting to Managaha. Department of Lands and Natural Resources has jurisdiction over submerged lands. The appropriate fees go to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Counsel. Representative Sablan, further?

Representative Vinny Vinson F. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So, the statements by DPL stating that in Article 11 of the CNMI Constitution, which gives DPL the exclusive authority to receive all monies generated from use of public land including Managaha island. Is that consistent with the Constitution? I am trying to find that in the actual content of the CNMI Constitution. I can’t find that part and I want to ask if that’s – they use the word exclusive authority to receive all money generated.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Go ahead Counsel.

Legal Counsel John Cool: That is not correct either because if you read the actual statute it covers the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Lands. If lands have been given to another agency for administration, that other agency can charge fees for the use for that public land and it would not be going to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. Again, in this case, you would have to realize that there are two separate landing fees or fees charged with respect to Managaha island. There’s a fee that came as part of the original Tasi Tours concession agreement now that fee is based on the use of the land. That fee stays with the Department of Public Lands. They’re still entitled to collect the \$5.00 fee that’s in the Tasi Tour agreement. This is an additional fee and it always has been an additional fee and it has just not been collected by the Department of Lands. It breaks it out specifically, so the two fees are separate, the Tasi Tour fee \$5.00 that remains in existence that’s public lands fee. That’s the one we can’t take away, that’s the one that’s – it’s a fee being charged for the use of Public Lands that still exists.

Representative Vinny Vinson F. Sablan: So that’s not we’re – we’re not touching that landing fee from Managaha that remains of DPL is that what you’re saying?

Legal Counsel John Cool: Correct. The Constitution says we can’t touch it. Under Article I, you can’t enact a law that appears in existing contract right. Tasi Tours and public lands that are in existing contract with the \$5.00 fee that would remain in existence this is an entirely separate fee that we’re talking about here.

Representative Vinny Vinson F. Sablan: I yield Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Sablan. Thank you, Counsel for that clarification. Let me now recognize Representative Dela Cruz.

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Congressman Sablan brought up a good question whether this is constitutional or not. I just so happen to have the CNMI Constitution in front of me. Article XI, Section 5 (g) let me read, “the corporation shall receive all monies from the public lands” public lands meaning Managaha and other public lands within the CNMI “except for those lands in which freehold interests has been transferred to another agency.” In this case, Managaha has not been transferred to another agency so therefore it remains monies to be collected by the former MPLC now Department of Public Lands. “And shall transfer these monies after the end of the fiscal year to the Marianas Public Land Trust except that the corporation” or DPL now “shall retain the amount necessary to reasonable expenses of administration and management, land survey, homestead development, any other expenses reasonably necessary for the accomplishments of these functions.” So, seeing that Managaha is public land although Tasi Tours is in a contract that is binding and it’s protected under Article I because of that contract and it cannot be impaired. All monies and fees shall be collected by the Department of Public Lands. This is the Constitution. If we are to give another agency or departments the rights to collect these funds, then we may be infringing Article XI, Section 5 (g). I, for one, do not want to go against the Constitution. There are other ways to fix this and that is to introduce an initiative taking away this function for Managaha and giving it to DLNR. That is the only way we can do this it has to be through a Constitutional amendment whether a popular initiative or legislative initiative – that is the only way we can change this provision in our CNMI Constitution. So, again just to clarify, all funds collected from public lands are to go towards Department of Public Lands and then in turn go to MPLT, Marianas Public Land Trust. I will yield for now Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Dela Cruz. Counsel, you may proceed.

Legal Counsel John Cool: First for clarification under the Constitution Section 5 of Article XI, which says, “Fundamental Policies.” The Supreme Court has ruled that the entire Section 5 of Article XI does not apply to the Department of Public Lands. So, what we’re talking about public lands and what they’re entitled to and what their responsibilities are – Section 5 of Article XI by ruling of the Supreme Court does not apply. Number 2, going back to Article XI and what the subject is of this particular bill, if we go to Section 2, “Submerged Lands. The management and disposition of submerged lands off the coast of the Commonwealth shall be as provided by law.” We have enacted a law giving the authority to manage the submerged lands to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. This bill is proposing a charge for using the submerged lands traversing over the submerged lands from any point in the Commonwealth to Managaha and imposing a fee for that purpose. So, the constitutional provision is being applied with and that is the management of submerged lands. Article V, we’re not dealing with the management of surface lands – we’re dealing here with submerged lands and any respect Section 5 is not in my handbook. So, this bill beats the requirements for the Attorney General set out, but if we’re going to give the authority to the Natural Resources it would have to be based upon the authority to manage public or submerged lands then that’s exactly what is stated at the bill. This is not a management of surface lands it’s a management of submerged lands.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you for that further clarification. Representative Dela Cruz?

Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you Counsel for that clarification. The title itself for this particular legislation. Let me state, “to make the Department of Lands and Natural Resources responsible for collecting the Managaha fee and removing the Department of Public Lands of the Managaha fees; and for other purposes.” The title does not indicate whether these fees are traversing fees on the submerged lands, which is water. If anyone wants to traverse from Saipan to Managaha, do we charge them a fee or do we charge them a fee when they get on the surface land? In this case, Managaha land. If anyone wants to travel back and forth to Saipan and Managaha, do you charge them for that travel in the waters? Do they get off the boat and stand on the water? Or do they make an attempt to get on land? The title itself is very unclear. First off, we do not have a definition in the legislation of what Managaha fee is. I don’t see any definition on what this fee is. Now we’re saying it’s a submerged land fee. So, basically what it’s telling me is this is going to be a fee that’s going to be charged in the waters as you travel between Saipan and Managaha or from Tinian to Managaha or from Rota to Managaha. It is very unclear. The only fees that I see being collected here is when you land on the actual surface land. Why would anyone be charged just to ride a boat from Saipan to the edge of Managaha in the waters? Why would we want to charge these people? I think it’s quite evident that if the Supreme Court ruling has whined that subsection or Section 5 does no longer hold water then if that is the case, then why do we still have the Department of Public Lands? Why do we still have the MPLT? They should be given to other agencies if that was the case. And that is why I believe that – again this is still – it would be unconstitutional if we infringe it on Article XI. I yield Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative. Let me recognize the Vice Speaker.

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the Legal Counsel. Counsel, the CNMI Supreme Court noted in DPL vs. Commonwealth 2010 MP14. “No statute may circumvent Marianas Public Land Trust constitutional duty to receive funds generated from public land.” Does this bill consistent with this ruling?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Recognize the Counsel.

Legal Counsel John Cool: Yes it would be and that ruling would not apply to a situation where you’re imposing a charge in respect to submerged lands that was talking about if you’re imposing a charge for the use of surface lands that fund cannot be diverted anywhere else. The only reason that the Department of Lands is receiving the fee at this time is not because it’s under the authority to manage public lands, but because the statute itself says that fee shall go to public lands. If that statute has said originally the fees shall go to Lands and Natural Resources or this fee shall go to the Secretary of Finance, there’s nothing that violated the constitution. The only reason that’s going to public lands at this time is not because of the constitutional of land requirement for fees in respect to the manage of public land it’s because the statute says they go to public lands. If we can amend the statute then the fees are not related to the management of public lands then there’s no violation. It’s just like the charge that was made for Sea Touch using the submerged lands of off shore Fiesta Hotel. That was not an area that was public land so the fee associated with that went to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Counsel. Vice Speaker.

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: If I may proceed Mr. Speaker and Counsel. So are you saying that Managaha is not a public land?

Legal Counsel John Cool: No, but the submerged – this bill right here it says the fee is imposed from – the landing fee of \$20.00 is imposed on each nonresident passenger disembarks Managaha island by a commercial appearing any point in the Commonwealth and is transferred over the waters of Managaha. This fee is imposed of a license in such term –

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Counsel, the question is yes or no. Is Managaha land a public land.

Legal Counsel John Cool: Yes, Managaha land it is.

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Thank you, Counsel. Mr. Speaker, if I may. Legal Counsel, can you please expound Article X, Section 1 and its inconsistency or consistency with 4CMC subsection 2208 (d)?

Legal Counsel John Cool: Article I and Article X, Section 1 Public Purpose. A tax may not be levied and an appropriation of public money may not be made, directly or indirectly, except for public purpose. The legislature shall provide the definition of public purpose. Yes.

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Is it consistent or no with the bill?

Legal Counsel John Cool: Yes.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Further Vice?

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Yes Mr. Speaker. Again Legal Counsel, can you please expound again on Public Law 18-42 as amended. Section 1CMC subsection 2653. Is it consistent with this current bill House Bill 20-71.

Legal Counsel John Cool: I have to get back to the bill. 1CMC –

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Correct. Subsection 2653.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Counsel, do you need a short recess for that?

Legal Counsel John Cool: It's a very long section and I know there's a provision in here that gives them the authority to manage submerged lands.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Mr. Speaker, if I may. Can you call for a short recess.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Short recess.

The House recessed at 10:59 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:13 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess. You may proceed Counsel.

Legal Counsel John Cool: The law – proposed bill is totally consistent with 1CMC 2653 in subsection (k) that says the responsibility for the management is in disposition of the three miles of the submerged lands off the coast of the Commonwealth. Pursuant to the submerged lands act, one of the responsibilities, powers and duties of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Vice Speaker.

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita: Thank you, Counsel. Thank you Speaker, I yield.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there have been a lot of discussion on the constitutionality of this bill. I am not even going to venture into that at this point. I do want to discuss some policy issues about this bill. Saipan Chamber of Commerce opposes this bill because they feel it is overly excessive. The Marianas Visitors Authority similarly opposes the bill for that reason it's a 300% increase and in addition to that they feel that it would divert funds from the landing fee to other projects and programs and removing the landing fee also means that it removes the funding that goes towards the maintenance and upkeep of Managaha island and that to me is a big concern Mr. Speaker. Managaha is our jewel if you will as far as tourism for our islands. I think most of us will agree that the maintenance, the upkeep, things like making sure that the bathroom there, which have running water, flushing toilets – we may end up if don't have funding to ensure that those amenities are kept up or maintained we may face problems in the future to our number one tourist destination. That Mr. Speaker is an issue that I think we should give serious consideration to. I have spoken with our Legal Counsel and he has advised me that DPL under the concession agreement an the regulations may also impose \$5.00 landing fee and that it's kind of confusing because under the concession agreement they may impose a \$5.00 fee under the law which is being repealed or amended. It's also called a landing fee. We're removing the statutory fee and replacing it with another fee. I tried to communicate with the Secretary of the Department of Public Lands to confirm if in fact they are charging a \$5.00 landing fee and if in fact that source of funding will provide for the maintenance and upkeep, unfortunately Mr. Speaker she was not available. I want to ask if we can hold off acting on this until we can confirm that. I will not and cannot support a bill that will remove that source of funding. If, I may be amendable Mr. Speaker if we can leave the \$5.00 fee intact and maybe reduce the submerged lands fee to something like \$10.00 both can coexist, both can provide funding for their programs without necessarily sacrificing the important component of this and that is to make sure our number one premiere tourist destination is upkeep or is maintained. At this point, I can't do that and I want to ask the members if we can maybe leave it on calendar, allow some time to confirm this and make the right decision once we have all the facts. We're going to push forward with this Mr. Speaker under the current language of the bill, I cannot support it. Thank you, members and Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Deleon Guerrero. Let me allow the mover of the legislation and from there we go to the Floor Leader. Recognize Representative Guerrero.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do understand that there's some constitutionality and concerns raised about the intent of this bill. It's so alarming Mr. Speaker, maybe before I make the move to refer the bill back to the committee, DPL is saying right now that Managaha is overwhelmed with tourist, let's cut the numbers a thousand tourist to Managaha. We're so concern about the \$5.00 fee. If Managaha is receiving four-thousand plus tourist arrival there at \$5.00, does that mean putting up \$20.00 would deter that? I don't think so. The concern about the facility it's in the concession agreement. What's alarming and very mind boggling is on the east side the current continue to eat up Managaha. What is DPL doing about addressing the depletion of the island? Sooner or later there's no Managaha. I brought that attention to the Secretary about working with the Army Corp. of engineer to address that area. Sooner or later the Carolinian people will not be able to go there to pay respects to their founding father Aghurubw because it'd be washed away. Now, the intent of the fee, the money is merit of what the purpose of it but if the concern of the members is about the constitutionality and getting feedback from Secretary of DPL then as the author, I move that we move House Bill 20-71 back to committee for further review. Mr. Speaker, if there's no objection?

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Guerrero. I believe you just made a motion to withdraw House Bill 20-71, HS1, HD2 back to the committee. Your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion?

Several members voiced "ready."

There was no discussion and the motion to recommit House Bill 20-71, HS1, HD2 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Recognize the Floor Leader.

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

H. B. NO. 20-140, HD1, SD1

A Bill for an Act 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. [SEN. COMM. 20-138]

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 20-140, House Draft 1, 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	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 Vinny 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 20-140, HD1, SD1 passes the House. Thank you members for your support. Let me again recognize the Floor Leader for the next motion.

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

H. B. NO. 20-147, HS1, HD1, SD4

A Bill for an Act to appropriate twenty-four million, twenty-six thousand, fifty-six dollars and thirty-five cents (\$24,026,056.35) from the Special Casino Gross Revenue Tax Account, earmarked under 4 CMC §2308. [SEN. COMM. 20-139]

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 20-147, House Substitute 1, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 4 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

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

Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 Vinny 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 in the affirmative, House Bill 20-147, HS1, HD1, SD4 passes the House. Again thank you members for your support. Floor Leader.

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

H. B. NO. 20-88, HD1, SD3

A Bill for an Act to repeal and re-enact “The Education Act of 1988” as amended and as codified as 3 CMC § 1101 through § 1193; and for other purposes. [SEN. COMM. 20-132]

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Floor Leader if I may, can you clarify again your motion?

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: The motion is to pass House Bill 20-88, HD1, SD3.

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 20-88, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 3 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

Representative Francisco C. Aguon	yes
Representative Edwin P. Aldan	yes
Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao	yes
Representative Donald C. Barcinas	yes
Representative Ivan A. Blanco	yes
Representative Francisco S. Dela Cruz	yes
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	yes
Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 Vinny 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 in the affirmative, House Bill 20-147, HS1, HD1, SD4 passes the House. Again, members *Si Yu’us Ma’ase* for your support. Floor Leader.

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

H. B. NO. 20-70, SD1

A Bill for an Act to clarify sections 20129 and 20130 relating to the CNMI Veterans Cemetery.
[SEN. COMM. 20-137]

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 20-70, 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	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 Vinny 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 20-70, SD1 passes the House. Floor Leader.

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

S. B. NO. 20-86, SD1

A Bill for an Act to rename the Port of Tinian/Tinian Harbor, The “Honorable Jose Pangelinan San Nicolas Commercial Port of Tinian”; and for other purposes. [SEN. COMM. 20-129]

The motion was seconded.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Mr. Speaker. Just to make a correction on the name. I do apologize it’s suppose to be “Honorable Jose” not “Jesus Pangelinan San Nicolas Commercial Port of Tinian.” My apologies.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader and thank you for that clarification. Again, your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Ready? Clerk.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of Senate Bill 20-86, 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	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 Vinny 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 in the affirmative, Senate Bill 20-86, SD1 passes the House. Thank you, members. Floor Leader.

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

S. B. NO. 20-90

A Bill for an Act to amend 1 CMC §1610(a) [amending Youth Congress Sessions]; and for other purposes. [SEN. COMM. 20-130]

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Floor Leader. Motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a floor amendment just to clarify the intent of the bill.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT

S. B. 20-90

I. Page 1: title line:

I hereby move to amend current text in the title to reflect the following amendment:

“To amend 1 CMC § 1601(a); ~~and for other purposes~~ to permit youth congress sessions every two months.”

II. Page 2, line 7: Amend the text as follows: strike “require” and replace it with “permit”.

III. Page 2, line 11: Amend the text as follows: strike “shall” and replace with “may”

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

Date: February 16, 2018 Offered by: /s/ Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:
/s/ Legal Counsel Joseph Tajeron

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Representative Deleon Guerrero. Discussion on that motion? Ready?

There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Back to the main motion. Further discussion? Ready? Clerk.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of Senate Bill 20-90, House Draft 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

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

Representative Angel A. Demapan	yes
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	yes
Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
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 Vinny 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. Again, with all 19 members voting in the affirmative, Senate Bill 20-90, SD1 passes the House. Thank you, members. Recognize the Floor Leader.

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

H. B. NO. 20-102, HD1, SS1

A Bill for an Act to repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes. [SEN. COMM. 20-128]

The motion was seconded.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Short recess Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Short recess.

The House recessed at 11:38 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:38 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess. The Floor Leader has the floor. You may proceed.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, Mr. Speaker I would like to take the opportunity and again ask the indulgence of the members that I withdraw my motion for passage in Final Reading of House Bill 20-102, HD1, SS1. Perhaps Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask you if you can respectfully request to designate a Floor Leader Pro Tem for the purpose of offering a rejection motion to House Bill 20-102, HD1, SS1 pursuant to Rule II, Section 2 (k) of our House Rule. Mr. Speaker, the reason for me asking for the incursion is for the rejection motion of course because there is a provision on the substitute version offered by the Senate that benefits directly the First Senatorial District to which I am in support of and therefore, Mr. Speaker, again I ask that you designate a Floor Leader Pro Tem to offer the rejection motion based on the discussion that we had a day ago. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, I am not raising my hand to be the Floor Leader Pro Tem, but in our discussion, we wanted to afford the mover the opportunity to provide his concerns on the Senate amendments and before we make any kind of motion maybe we can have a short recess and ask the mover to give us his concerns on the matter?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. So with that we will go ahead and allow the mover to perhaps expound the action taken by the Senate. You may proceed.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you members. Mr. Speaker, the original intent to repeal and reenact 4CMC subsection 1508 is a reservation of the license revenue that comes directly from the poker license fee that goes to the general, which is a portion goes to the general fund paid directly to the retirement fund, but during the negotiation of the settlement fund they actually took that portion out and it has been suspended for the last 12 fiscal years for the CNMI government. Therefore, in this last budget which under Governor’s Communication 20-23, Governor Torres had asked the legislature to repeal that specific section and in doing so we actually freed up the funds. Public Law 7-31 obligated the central government to pay for all CNMI employees frozen steps with in-grade increases. Unfortunately, during 7th Legislature they didn’t have enough funds through the general fund – 8th Legislature, 9th, 10th, 11th 12th, 13th, but – all the way through the 19th Legislature. The Second and Third Senatorial District took it upon itself to reserve all their poker fees on an annual basis to take care of their obligations to their specific employees. The First Senatorial District had over the years through the budget process gotten their with in-grade increase paid for and the intent of the legislation was actually in good faith to pay back the delegations for the funds that they had used up over the years to pay for the actual central government’s obligation. To that last two legislatures who’ve received direct opinions from the Attorney General’s Office that Department and Agencies are not obligated to take on responsibilities under the municipality and with my understanding on our Constitution that amendment 25 does not necessarily apply to the Third Senatorial District because the central government is located in the Third Senatorial District. The First and Second Senatorial District had the authority through the Mayor’s Office to appoint resident directors staging them as secretaries of their respective municipalities. With the \$1.7 Million Dollars that the Second Senatorial District had used up to pay their with in-grade increase, I saw it fit that we pay back the delegation. The Third Senatorial District is \$11.3 Million Dollars, I saw fit that we can pay back the delegation. I respect the Senate’s substitute, but in the Senate substitute they actually brought back to the Third Senatorial District an obligation list of where these funds are going. The Third Senatorial District has never rejected any request from any entity within the CNMI. Whether it’s a department, nonprofit organization, or a senatorial district requesting for any funds. The Third Senatorial District with the funds that they have available would greatly share their funds with the other entities whether it’s by senatorial district, nonprofit organizations, departments or line item agencies. By now, putting a list to obligate the CNMI government to take care of the Mayor’s Office building – we have no problem helping the Mayor’s Office – we always help the Mayor’s Office. The cockfight we can take that off the list. We will work directly with the Mayor’s Office through our delegation. The Public School System we just gave them \$11,850,000.00 and we’re going to obligate the Third Senatorial District to take care of the buildings and NMC buildings on Saipan. I understand it’s

on Saipan, but we continuously through the Third Senatorial District, our SNILD funds, I spread thinly through all the other organizations, all departments, all line item agencies and like I said even through the Senatorial Districts we've given them funds. We've never said "no," but now that we're able to pay our delegation back, we're obligating our delegation to what entities we're going to be giving the monies to when we could actually give the money to the Mayor's Office and build their own DPS, build their own Finance, build their own Public Works if the AG is saying that amendment 25 applies to the Third Senatorial District then let's give that money and help the Third Senatorial District improve itself in enforcing the laws because right now a lot of their opinion is coming back to our body letting us know that we can – departments are not obligated to enforce senatorial district or local laws, but unfortunately maybe the amendment 25 is not being reviewed carefully right now. So with that said Mr. Speaker and members, I would like that we make a motion to reject the Senate amendments let's go to conference committee and fix the legislation. The real intent is just to pay back what's definitely been owed to the Second and Third Senatorial District that's been paying their obligations to their people for the last fifteen twenty years. And with that being said Mr. Speaker, thank you and I hope that the favorable motion is to reject and go to conference committee and settle this disagreement with the Senate. At least, I disagree. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Representative Attao. Again, thank you for that information and clarification. Further Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, I think the Floor Leader has asked that you appoint a Floor Leader Pro Tem before the motion.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Deleon Guerrero. First, we would have to dispose of the motion. The motion was to withdraw the motion made by the Floor Leader and was seconded. Discussion?

Several members voiced "ready."

There was no discussion and the motion to withdraw the motion to pass House Bill 20-102, HD1, SS1 was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. So with that and of course pursuant to Rule II, as stated by the Floor Leader, Section 2 (k), I will appoint Representative Angel Demapan to be the Floor Leader Pro Tem. Any objection to that?

Several members voiced "no objection."

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Without any objection, Representative Angel Demapan will be the Floor Leader Pro Tem. You may proceed.

Floor Leader Pro Tem Angel A. Demapan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the interest of fostering, collaboration and cooperation with our counterparts in the upper house and to reach a mutual agreement through a conference committee, on our Bill Calendar we have House Bill 20-102, HD1, SS1 "to repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes." Mr. Speaker, I move for its rejection.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Floor Leader Pro Tem. Again your motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Ready? Clerk for the roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to reject House Bill 20-102, House Draft 1, Senate Substitute 1 on First and Final Reading with the following results:

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

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 17 members voted “yes” and 2 members voted “no.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Clerk. With 2 members voting “no” and 17 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-102, HD1, SS1 is rejected. Therefore, I will call a conferee for this legislation. For the record, let me appoint Representative Angel Demapan to be the Chair on the House. Representative JP Sablan and Representative BJ Attao will be a part of this conferee. So with that, House Bill 20-102, HD1, SS1 is hereby rejected. Thank you, members. Floor Leader.

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

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]

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Motion has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do have a floor amendment. I do want to ask the Sergeant at Arms to pass around copies of the floor amendment to the members. Maybe a really short recess for them to review it.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Short recess.

The House recessed at 11:52 a.m.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 11:55 a.m.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back from our recess. You may proceed Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe every member has been given a copy of the proposed floor amendment. Mr. Speaker, before I read the floor amendment, let me just add that this discussion kind of follows up on the last session discussion on this bill and the intent of this amendment is really just to ensure that the current licensee or any licensee is already licensed is able to renew their license.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero offered the following floor amendment:

FLOOR AMENDMENT TO H.B. NO. 20-19

H. B. No. 20-19 is amended to as follows

I. Page 2, lines 1 to 5, are amended to read:

~~“attached to a golf course-~~

(1) A hotel or resort with fewer than 100 rooms shall also be exempt provided such hotel or resort is attached to an operational golf course with a minimum of (18) holes and provided that such hotel or resort has an ownership or leasehold interest in such golf course.”

II. Page 2, line 6 new Section 3 is added as follows:

Section 3. Amendment. Title 4, Section 1503 is amended by adding the following new subsection:

“(x) The provisions of 6 CMC 3156 (b)(1) shall not apply to the renewal or new license issued pursuant to 4 CMC § 1503 (a)(6) (or licensed issued pursuant to regulations covering 4 CMC § 1503 (a)(6)) by to a person holding a license issued pursuant to 6 CMC § 1503 (a)(6) in existence on the effective date of this amendment.”

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

Date: February 16, 2018

Offered by: /s/ Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero

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

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Deleon Guerrero. Motion again has been seconded. Discussion on that motion? Recognize Representative Attao.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to the mover of the amendment. Representative Deleon Guerrero, what’s the difference with your amendment – with the first amendment I’m sorry.

Legal Counsel John Cool: Number 1.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: So it would be (b) 1. And the second amendment I guess this is regarding the existing license for the machines, right?

Legal Counsel John Cool: For renewal.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: For renewal. Okay. Counsel, I know we brought this up during the last session. Would this be considered two different subjects under one legislation? I only bring this up because multiple times during the legislations that the Counsels review in the House – it always gets shutdown because of multiple subjects, other than the budget or any appropriation bills. You as Counsels had reminded us that we can only have one subject per legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Counsel, you wanted to?

Legal Counsel John Cool: This would not be in consistent with the single subject requirement since the single subject is amending and to require a 24-hole golf course and providing an exception to that. It all relates to the golf course.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: I understand that Counsel, but the actual legislation is talking about the location. This second amendment is talking about the license. That’s different than the intent of the legislation.

Legal Counsel John Cool: I think the intent of the legislation is to add a condition to the license. An additional condition that is regarding the same license section. The subject is basically the licensing and e-gaming a more stringent requirement and definition of golf course and then making a provision that basically grandfathering in.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: You may.

Representative Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Counsel, again you’re not answering the question. The physical location is not the license, the license for the machines. What the actual legislation is just clearly defining what 18-30 as amended reads, which what

qualifies as a location to allow e-gaming. The second amendment is talking about the license of the machines it's not talking about the area in which the license can be used. I believe during recess in the last session, you had mentioned that it's a separate amendment. So, I just want to make sure that if we're going to be consistent with the one legislation, one subject that you as Counsel also make sure that we're consistent with the one subject, one legislation and not only pick and choose you would like to allow one subject. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Counsel, we are consistent?

Legal Counsel John Cool: Correct. My interpretation would be that the subject matter of this is the licensing of e-gaming.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Further? You may.

Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know, I'm taking up others time, but it's just under 18-30 it was an "as amended" as to what locations we can have e-gaming. What the second amendment is talking about is the actual machines for those locations. So, if a hotel that qualifies to have e-gaming then that's separate. The license fee you pay for the machines is separate from the physical location being qualified to have e-gaming in it. So, I want to make it clear that this is two different subjects. I don't have a problem with the legislation in its intent as written because it's talking about the location and during the discussion with the primary author of the legislation and I put my signature on the bill in support of the legislation because of the historical information that I understand from the original intent of 18-30. If we look at the history of 18-30 even during the session of the 18th Legislature it mentioned the qualification of Coral Ocean Point during the deliberations and the committee level in the 18th Legislature it was always to make sure that every senatorial district was able to qualify to have e-gaming. Rota Resort had the 18-holes but didn't have the 100 rooms. So that qualified Rota Resort. Tinian Dynasty had the 100 rooms but didn't have the golf course that was the intent of allowing the amendments during the deliberation during the Ways and Means Committee and during session the sample was used during session was Coral Ocean Point. I have no problems with investors coming in and investing in the Commonwealth. The thing is the Counsel is allowing two different subjects in this legislation and in multiple times that we come to the Counsel's desk they come back and they strikeout certain provisions because we're talking about multiple subjects. In my personal opinion, I don't have the legal background to get my legal opinion, Mr. Speaker, but it's just common sense that when we're talking about location and license they're two different things. If we're going to talk about rezoning certain areas to allow poker, we've done that over in the delegation level, we allow business establishment to function but it's separate from the poker because it's not qualified in those certain areas but they still have to pay their \$12,000.00 license. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you. Any further? Recognize Representative Deleon Guerrero.

Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too I am not an attorney and I defer to the Counsel and I think he's already commented on that. I just want to add that Representative Attao was elaborating that the original intent was about location. I look at it differently and that the original intent was about licensing. It didn't really specify about where

the location or what location. I think it's that for any new, for any e-gaming facilities, these are the licensing requirements and the second amendment does deal through the licensing of the machines rather than the establishment. So, in that sense it could be different, but they're both licensing requirements. Maybe just to add a different perspective on your concerns. I am not disagreeing with Representative Attao just rather to add on to this discussion that it both falls under licensing of e-gaming. One is the establishment and the other machines with both licensing. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Guerrero.

Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the Secretary of Finance had promulgate a regulation with respect to the licensing. Again, the intent of the bill is about the definition of what is and – the golf resort is in an 18 or 9 hole and that's technically what this bill is intending to do is to ascertain that in future you must have an 18-hole golf facility. Not a putting golf, not a 9-hole golf it has nothing to do with the licensing of the machine. That rest at the Secretary of Finance to determine whether to renew or not to renew the license. This regulation that has been established in fairness I think we should allow the Secretary of Finance to be the responsible person to consider whether to renew or not. This has nothing to do about saying “we're not going to renew your license because it's not an 18-hole golf resort.” This is just saying, “for the future you must have an 18-hole golf establishment in order for you to qualify to have e-gaming.” As to the licensing that rests at the discretion of the Secretary of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Representative Guerrero. Further?

Several members voiced “ready.”

There was no further discussion and the motion to adopt the floor amendment offered by Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero was carried by voice vote. There was no nay vote.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, members. Back to the main motion. Further discussion? Recognize Representative Blanco.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because the possibility that certain businesses in my precinct 3 might be affected. I just want clarification whether these amendments would not in any way be directed at certain particular businesses in precinct 3.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: I don't quite understand.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Let me rephrase. Allow me to rephrase. This particular amendment would it affect current businesses in operations at the moment?

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Are you referring to the existing business?

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: In particular, Saipan Vegas, would this bill affect it's operations when it renews its license.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Well, I don't think so because it would allow to continue with the amendment that they just provided that we just approved. They will be allowed to continue renewing the business license. I think the original intent of this bill is to clarify between 9-hole and 18-holes.

Representative Ivan A. Blanco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So clarified.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Further? Clerk for the roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion for the passage of House Bill 20-19, 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	no
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	no
Speaker Rafael S. Demapan	yes
Representative Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero	yes
Representative Alice S. Igitol	no
Representative Jose I. Itibus	absent (<i>excused</i>)
Representative Glenn L. Maratita	yes
Representative Janet U. Maratita	no
Representative Edwin K. Propst	no
Representative Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.	yes
Representative John Paul P. Sablan	yes
Representative Vinny Vinson F. Sablan	yes
Representative Edmund Joseph S. Villagomez	yes

House Clerk Linda B. Muña: Mr. Speaker, all 14 members voted "yes" and 5 members voted "no."

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Clerk. With 14 members voting in the affirmative, House Bill 20-19, HD1 passes the House. Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Glenn L. Maratita: *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*, Mr. Speaker. We do have two remaining bills on the calendar, 20-35, HD1 and 20-36, HD1 and Mr. Speaker if there's no objection from the members, I would like to leave this on the calendar or offer that we leave this on the calendar per the author's request pending an analysisist that will be forthcoming probably a few days or a week from now.

No action taken for the following legislation:

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]

Several members voiced “no objection.”

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you, Floor Leader. Without any objection, those two bills will remain on the Bill Calendar. So I guess that took care of our Bill Calendar. Moving down to Miscellaneous Business? Announcement? Recognize Representative Aldan.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Edwin P. Aldan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am inviting all members and public to our Annual Pika Festival this weekend in Tinian. Come and support and join us. Thank you.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: *Si Yu’us Ma’ase*, Chairman Aldan and thank you for the invitation. Recognize Representative Vinny Sablan.

Representative Vinny Vinson F. Sablan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just because we always wish birthday greetings, happy belated birthday to our colleague Congressman Edwin Propst.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan: Thank you and happy birthday colleague Propst. Further? Ready? Floor Leader for the adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The House adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Venetia S. Rosario
House Journal Clerk

APPEARANCE OF LOCAL BILLS

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

SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY: NONE

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DAY: NONE

Appearance of Measures introduced on the House Floor during the House Session on January 31, 2018:

[Added-1/31/18] H. B. No. 20-151: To amend 9 CMC §2104 to increase the fees for heavy equipment vehicles and certain other vehicles set forth in the specified statute; and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*) on January 31, 2018; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[Added-1/31/18] H. B. No. 20-152: To authorize and empower the Governor to request that the Secretary of the Interior transfer administration of the American Memorial Park to the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Donald C. Barcinas of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Rafael S. Demapan, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., and John Paul P. Sablan) on January 31, 2018; subsequently referred to the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs.

[Added-1/31/18] H. B. No. 20-153: To amend 2 CMC § 4433 to authorize the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation to promulgate regulations on procurement, travel, and personnel matters; and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Ivan A. Blanco of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Edwin K. Propst, John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez) on January 31, 2018; was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations on February 1, 2018.

[Added-1/31/18] H. L. B. No. 20-56: To re-appropriate Fourteen Thousand dollars (\$14,000.00) in B.U. 3389I, allotted under Saipan Local Law 17-04; Sixteen Thousand, Three Hundred and Eleven dollars (\$16,311.00) in B.U. 3374F, allotted under Saipan Local Law 17-09; Five Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighty-Seven dollars (\$5,287.00) in B.U. 3399H, allotted under Saipan Local Law 18-07; Ten Thousand, Two Hundred and Sixty-Two dollars (\$10,262.00) in B.U. 3400N, allotted under Saipan Local Law 18-24; One Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirty-Five dollars (\$1,335.00) in B.U. 3700H, allotted under Saipan Local Law 19-27; and Twenty-Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred and Sixty-Four dollars (\$28,764.00) in B.U. 3710D, allotted under Saipan Local Law 20-03; and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Angel A. Demapan of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*) on January 31, 2018; transmitted to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation on February 1, 2018.

House information on deadlines for override: None