



# OFFICE OF SENATE PRESIDENT EDITH DELEON GUERRERO



*Annual Report to the People of the Northern Mariana Islands  
January 2023 - December 2023*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Promote and create a government of people that truly and sincerely lives up to its promise, to honesty and transparency, to taking care of its islands and citizens, and provides opportunities to all and not just the few. Create a system that promotes fairness and equality whether it is for business or employment, a government that is respected in both regional and international world, fiscally sound and healthy government with well managed and sustainable industries for everyone's economic prosperity. Improve and protect the living standards of families and children, encourage citizens to freely express themselves without fear of its government because their ideals differ. Promote investing in our human capital asset for our strength and economic advancement where families and individuals alike are empowered to grow and aspire for greater success. Develop a system of services for long-term care and usefulness, improved and affordable infrastructure for our people and for investor confidence. Promote a system of consumer services that looks to opportunities that promote efficiency. Encourage and promote a system of leaders that honor and uplift the citizens and their best interests. Secure our home where National Security is cherished and honored in union with the United States under the Covenant. Promote a common good for all here at home, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.*

## OUR TEAM



Left to right: Derek Teregeyo (Community Worker), Senator Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero, Valerie Santos (Office Assistant) and Jiandra Lizama (Office Assistant)



"ECONOMIC INITIATIVES FOR REVENUE CREATION THAT ARE VIABLE FOR OUR COMMONWEALTH MUST BE EXPLORED. FEDERAL RELATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF MUTUAL BENEFIT MUST BE PURSUED PROACTIVELY AND CONTINUOUSLY. IT IS OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES AS STEWARDS OF OUR COMMONWEALTH."

## LEGISLATURE ROLES

Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) Standing Committee on Judiciary & Governmental Operations - Chairperson  
SNILD Standing Committee on Natural Resources - Member

## INTRODUCED LEGISLATION

### **Senate Bills:**

- SB 23-02 To Amend 4 CMC § 2013 to Enhance MVA's Promoting Capabilities in the CNMI (PL-23-10)**
- SB 23-03 Prohibit Purchase of Leased Vehicles Paid by Public Funds by Elected Officials, Allow Exemption for Government Agency to Purchase Leased Vehicles Strictly for Agency Use**
- SB 23-04 Mandate Public Swimming Pools to be Equipped with Approved Covers**
- SB 23-05 To Transfer Administration of CNMI Government's Group Health and Life Insurance from DOF to OPM**
- SB 23-10 Establish Guidelines for CNMI's Membership in Pacific Island's Development Bank (PIDB)**
- SB 23-11 Prohibit Moving Civil Service Employee to Temporary Position for Political Reasons**
- SB 23-12 To Waive Repayment Requirements of the CNMI Scholarship Memorandum of Agreement/Promissory Note**
- SB 23-14 Quarrying Controls and Reclamation Plans in the CNMI**
- SB 23-18 To Clarify Local Legislative Delegation Power to Issue Subpoenas / Subpoenas Duces Tecum**
- SB 23-19 To Amend 1 CMC § 2803 (c) to Remove Payment of Land Compensation Judgements by DPL**
- SB 23-20 To Prohibit Individuals from Providing Confidential Information and to Prohibit Fiduciaries from Acting Against the Interests of Beneficiaries**
- SB 23-21 To Amend 4 CMC § 5611 to Restrict Business License Renewal Unless Administrative and Court Judgement Orders are Satisfied**
- SB 23-27 To Establish Public Corporation to Sustain Planning and Development Guidelines and Authority; To repeal Public Law 20-20, the CNMI Planning and Development Act of 2017**
- SB 23-33 To Require Employers Participation in E-Verify Administered by Social Security and USCIS in the Commonwealth to Verify Employment Eligibility and Maintain Legal Workforce**
- SB 23-36 Amend Zoning on Governor's Appointment on the Zoning Board**
- SB 23-38 To Establish Better Business Bureau within the Department of Commerce**
- SB 23-40 CUC Human Resources Regulations**
- SB 23-45 Administrative Leave for US National Guard / Reserve Members and ESGR Volunteers**

"IT IS THROUGH THE CREATION OF EACH RESPECTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE, OF EACH LEGISLATIVE HOUSE WHERE THE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE NEEDS TO BE PROACTIVE AND NOT IDLE. IT IS WORKING ON A BIPARTISAN LEVEL LEGISLATION THAT WILL BENEFIT THE PEOPLE ACROSS ALL LEVELS."

## INTRODUCED LEGISLATION (CONTINUATION)

### **Senate Resolutions:**

**SR 23-10 To Reserve Commonwealth Funds to Provide a Retiree Bonus or COLA to be Distributed Equally to All Settlement Class Members and CNMI Fund Members Receiving Annuity**

### **Senate Joint Resolutions:**

**SJR 23-01 To Re-assess Exempt Status of CNMI Participating in Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Pertaining to Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs**

**SJR 23-02 To Task Division of Revenue and Tax to Collect All Business Gross Revenue Owed to CNMI Government (Adopted)**

**SJR 23-03 Request MPLT to Authorize Use of Park Fund Income for Other Purposes and to Seek Concurrence of the United States Government Authorization**

**SJR 23-05 To Request USA President and Governor of CNMI to Convene Covenant Section 902 Consultations to Address Critical Issues Affecting CNMI (Adopted)**

**SJR 23-06 To Provide (1) Additional Full-Time Staff Position to Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office for a Total of (3) Number of Personnel Necessary for AHO to Satisfy Statutory Mandate to Provide Labor Administrative Hearing Services at DOL**

### **Senate Legislative Initiatives:**

**SLI 23-01 To Propose a Constitutional Amendment to Article XI, Section 6 of NMI Constitution to Ensure Transferred Accrued Interest on Investment Proceeds is Reserved for the Benefit of NMDs**

## 2023 SENATE SESSION AND MEETING ATTENDANCE

**Senate Sessions:**

**16/16**

**Emergency Senate Sessions:**

**2/2**

**Senate Special Sessions:**

**13/13**

**Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation Sessions:**

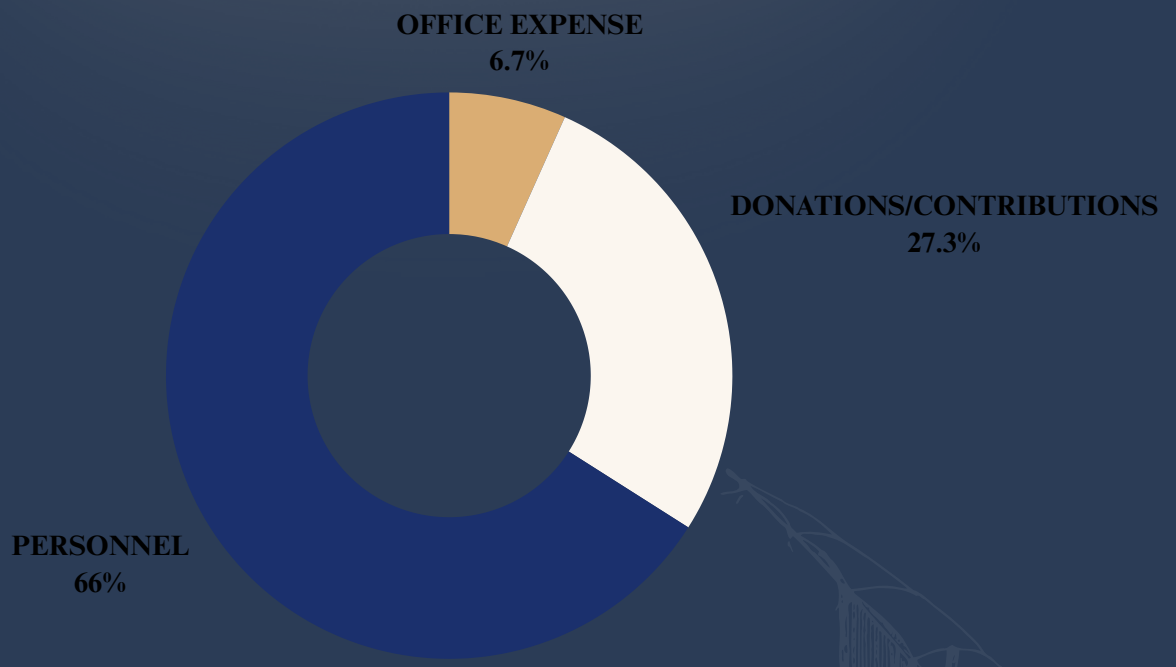
**8/8**

**Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation Judiciary & Governmental Operations Meetings:**

**7/7**

OUR COMMONWEALTH HAS BEEN TESTED AND WITHSTOOD MANY STORMS AND CAME OUT RECOVERED THROUGH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE US GOVERNMENT AND FOR THIS WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR. HOWEVER, ONE STORM THAT WE AS ELECTED OFFICIALS MUST COLLECTIVELY NAVIGATE OURSELVES THROUGH IS THE FINANCIAL STORM THAT OUR COMMONWEALTH AND ITS PEOPLE ARE DEPENDING ON US TO PROVIDE THEM THE ASSURANCES OF STABILITY AND SECURITY."

### FY 2023 EXPENSE DECLARATION



**66% Personnel**

**6.7% Office Expense**

**27.3% Donations/Contributions**

**0% Travel**

**0% Fuel**

**0% Monthly Subsistence Allowance**

300 MILLION DOLLARS RUNNING DEFICIT IS A VERY SERIOUS MATTER.. WE SHALL REFLECT ON PROMESA AND WORK HARD TO SAVE OURSELVES. AS ELECTED OFFICIALS WE MUST BE REMINDED OF OUR PURPOSE, WHY WE ARE HERE, AND WHO WE ARE HERE FOR. THESE GUIDING REFLECTIONS, NOT AS A SECOND OR AFTER THOUGHT, BUT AS A DAILY REMINDER, WILL HELP US STAY FOCUSED ON THE ISSUES AILING OUR COMMONWEALTH AND ITS PEOPLE."

**A MESSAGE FROM SENATOR EDITH DELEON GUERRERO**

*People of the Marianas,  
I am deeply humbled to provide to you my Third Year Annual  
Report.*

*This year has been filled with many events, both inside and outside the Legislative Chamber, in which I have been honored to be given the opportunity to serve you all. I hope this report finds you in confidence and trust of my sincere work and representation of your interests. I am looking forward to serving you again in the coming year of 2024.*

*With much gratitude,  
Senator Edith Deleon Guerrero*