



COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Unu na Licheslutan Guahan • The 31st Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com
E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
CHAIRPERSON
MAJORITY LEADER

Senator
Judith P. Guthertz
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ASST. MAJORITY LEADER

MAJORITY
MEMBERS:

Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat

Vice Speaker
Benjamin J. F. Cruz

Senator
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
MAJORITY WHIP

Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
ASST. MAJORITY WHIP

Senator
Thomas C. Ada

Senator
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

Senator
vicente c. pangelinan

MINORITY
MEMBERS:

Senator
Aline A. Yamashita
ASST. MINORITY LEADER

Senator
Christopher M. Duenas

September 7, 2011
For Immediate Release

SESSION UPDATE

Senators Respond to Governor's New Budget Bill

(*Hagåtña, Guam*) – Majority Leader and Rules Committee Chair Senator Rory J. Respicio reports that the Legislature concluded day two of Special Session, called by I Maga'lafen Guahan to address his third budget bill, Bill No. 1(2-S), the latest version of the government budget for Fiscal Year 2012.

During Session this afternoon, Respicio made a motion to substitute Bill No. 1(2-S) with the contents of recently introduced Bill No. 304-31 (LS) – which is the new FY2012 budget bill, without the bond borrowing chapter. Other than the bond borrowing provisions, both the Legislature and the Governor have agreed to an operating budget for the government for this coming fiscal year. Minority Leader Frank Blas rose in objection to the motion, however, with enough votes, the Respicio amendment carried. Proponents of this measure argued that the focus should be preventing a government shut down. By removing the bond borrowing component, it would allow for the government to continue operations come October 1st. Meanwhile, the governor and the Legislature can continue to reconcile their differences regarding the bond borrowing initiative. Respicio said that the budget should not be held hostage to the bond borrowing, and that quick passage of the budget would put to rest any anxiety over a possible government shut down. He added that the bond borrowing would still be pursued in a separate bill, so that overdue tax refunds and COLA payments could be paid out.

Senator Respicio moved to place the bill into the voting file and substitute Bill No. 1 (2-S) was passed by a vote of 8 Democrats voting aye, and 6 Republicans voting nay. Senator Rodriguez is currently off island tending to a family member's medical needs and is expected to return tomorrow.

###

Session resumes at 9:00 AM tomorrow, Thursday, September 8, 2011. The public can tune in on MCV Channel 13 or GUDTV Channel 21.