

U.S. Legislative Authority: CA § 207(a) places certain limits on U.S. legislative authority under IV-3-2 to assure local self-government; Covenant § 102 has no such limits.

Provisions Subject to Mutual Consent: CA § 207(b) has list of provisions of CA which cannot be changed without mutual consent, while Covenant § 102 has space for such a list, but does not contain one.

Applicability of U.S. Constitution: There are some differences between the portions of the U.S. Constitution proposed to be made applicable by CA § 208(a) and Covenant § 401. In addition, while CA § 208(b) reserves for the Commonwealth the power to control land alienation, Covenant § 402 requires such regulation, and in addition requires limits on individual land holdings. Finally, CA § 208(b) permits the Commonwealth legislative branch to be structured so that the three main islands are equally represented; the Covenant has no such provision.

Justiciability: CA § 210 implements the agreement of the parties with respect to justiciability; the Covenant contains no such provision.

Oath to Support U.S. Laws: Both CA § 211 and Covenant § 310 require public officials to take oaths to support U.S. laws. But Covenant § 307 requires the Commonwealth executive branch to execute the laws of the U.S.; there is no such provision in the CA.

Naturalization: CA § 304 contains special provisions relating to naturalization in the Marianas; the Covenant has no such provisions.

Interim Applicability of Laws Formula: CA § 401 provides for the interim applicability of federal laws under a formula, like Covenant § 403. The major differences between the formulas seem to be these: the new U.S. position on federal income tax laws is reflected in Covenant § 403(a)(3); CA §§ 401(a)(1) and (2) contain adjustments to the formula (e.g., concerning financial aid laws) not found in the Covenant; and CA § 401(b) reserves space for special provisions relating to matching.