

TITLE II

United States Citizenship and Nationality

Section 201. The following persons and their children under the age of 18 years on the effective date of this Section, who are not citizens or nationals of the United States under any other provision of law, and who have taken no affirmative steps to preserve or acquire foreign nationality, are declared to be citizens of the United States, except as otherwise provided in Section 202:

(a) All persons born in the Northern Mariana Islands who are citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands on the day preceding the effective date of this Section, and who on that date reside or are domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands or in any area in or under the jurisdiction of the United States;

(b) All persons who are citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands on the day preceding the effective date of this Section, who have been domiciled continuously in the Northern Mariana Islands for at least five years immediately prior to that date, and who, unless under age, have registered to vote in district elections in the Mariana Islands District prior to January 1, 197[5]; and

(c) All persons domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands on the day preceding the effective day of this Section, who, although not citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, do not on that day owe allegiance to any foreign state, and who on that date have been domiciled continuously in the Northern Mariana Islands since at least January 1, 197[4].

Section 202. Any person who becomes a citizen of the United States solely by virtue of the provisions of Section 201 may within six months after the effective date of that Section or within six months after reaching the age of 18 years, whichever date is the later, become a national but not a citizen of the United States by making a declaration under oath before any federal court or any court of record in the Commonwealth in the form as follows:

"I being duly sworn, hereby declare my intention to be a national but not a citizen of the United States."

Section 203. All persons born in the Commonwealth on or after the effective date of this Section and subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, shall be citizens of the United States.

NOTES

1. Provisions in both drafts granting the federal court for the Northern Marianas and the local courts of general jurisdiction authority to naturalize persons as citizens of the United States, CA §305, Cov. §204, have tentatively been moved to Title V (Applicability of United States Laws).

2. Provisions in both drafts defining "domicile," CA §306, Cov. §205, have been eliminated as unnecessary.

3. The provision in the MPSC draft dealing with residence in the Northern Marianas for naturalization purposes, CA §304, has been moved to Title V (Applicability of United States Laws). There is no comparable provision in the U.S. draft.

4. Brackets have been placed around the years in Subsections (b) and (c) of Section 201 because the principals may wish to reconsider the dates in light of the extended period now anticipated before termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.