REPORT TO THE CONVENTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND OTHER MATTERS

Subject: Committee Recommendation Number 7: Oath of Office

The Committee on Finance, Local Government and Other Matters recommends that the Convention adopt in principle the attached constitutional provision with respect to the oath of office for officials of the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Section 204 of the Covenant requires that all members of the legislature and all officers and employees of the government will take an oath or affirmation to support the Covenant, the Commonwealth Constitution and the applicable provisions of the United States Constitution and treaties. A solemn commitment to public service is the basis of entrusting powers and duties to officers and employees of the government. To reflect this commitment and to conform with Covenant guidelines, the Committee proposes a constitutional oath of office. The inclusion in the Constitution of the precise wording of the oath assures uniformity.

The oath includes an affirmation of support for the Commonwealth Constitution and laws, the Covenant, the United States Constitution, and those treaties and laws of the United States that are applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands.

Respectfully submitted,
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