Resolution No. 5

Introduced by Delegate Ramon G. Villagomez

#### A RESOLUTION

Offering sincere congratulations to the delegates and other members of the new legislature.

WHEREAS, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands have elected a new group of legislators, including delegates to the Constitutional Convention, as members of the new legislature; and

WHEREAS, the delegates and the other new legislators will ensure that preparation for the Commonwealth Government is efficient and thorough; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of unity, effectiveness and fairness necessary to the above endeavors is being promoted by the delegates and the other legislators;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention offers its sincere congratulations to the delegates and the other new members of the new legislature, and that a copy of this Resolution be sent to each member of the new legislature.

ADOPTED: November 16, 1976

Lorenzo I. Guerrero

President, Constitutional Convention

ATTEST:

Resolution No. 7

#### A RESOLUTION

Regarding the migration of Northern Marianas people to the United States and its territories.

WHEREAS, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands have overwhelmingly approved the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth in Political Union with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, through their elected delegates, have completed the drafting of a Constitution to implement the Covenant; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands have clearly evinced their determination to join the political family of the United States; and

WHEREAS, many residents of the new Commonwealth desire to travel within the United States for purposes of education, business and employment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Northern Marianas

Constitutional Convention strongly urges the United States
government to remove, upon the effective date of the Northern

Marianas Constitution, all official barriers to the temporary or
permanent migration of the Marianas people to the United States and

its territories; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of State of the United States.

Adopted: December 2, 1976

Lorenzo 1. Guerrero Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig Convention Secretary

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Resolution No. 8

#### A RESOLUTION

Extending appreciation and thanks to the Convention sergeant-at-arms.

WHEREAS, a Constitutional Convention requires the maintenance of order to discharge its duties successfully; and

WHEREAS, the sergeant-at-arms has the responsibility to ensure the maintenance of that order; and

WHEREAS, the sergeant-at-arms of this Convention has attended all of the meetings of this Convention, has maintained order in the convention hall so that the delegates could carry out their responsibilities, has given the officers and delegates of the Convention the respect due them and has been attentive to their requests;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Northern Marianas

Constitutional Convention extends its appreciation and thanks to

Sergeant Jose T. Ada for his outstanding performance as sergeant—

at-arms; and

BE 1T FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Sergeant Jose T. Ada and the Chief of Police, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

Adopted: December 2, 1976

June J. Dune o
Lorenzo I. Guerrero

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalia Convention Secretary

Resolution No. 9

#### A RESOLUTION

Authorizing and directing the president and secretary of the Convention to review and approve summary and verbatim journals.

WHEREAS, the Constitutional Convention of the Northern Mariana Islands will adjourn on December 6, 1976; and

WHEREAS, there will be summary and verbatim journals of the Convention's activities completed after that date;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the president and secretary of the Convention be authorized and directed to review and approve on behalf of the Convention summary and verbatim journals of the Convention's activities.

Adopted: December 3, 1976

Lorenzo I. Guerrero Convention President

ATTEST:

Resolution No. 10

#### A RESOLUTION

Extending thanks and appreciation to the staff of the Convention.

WHEREAS, the service of the assistant secretary, journal clerks, clerk-typists, xerox operator, librarians, public information officer, recording technician, administrative officers and pages are vital to the smooth and successful administrative operation of a Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, the following staff members have played an essential role in the Marianas Constitutional Convention: Juan Boyer, Stacy Pounds, Linda Layne, Alicia Guerrero, Connie Togawa, Nicolasa Babauta, Cynthia Mafnas, Annie P. Reyes, Gaudencia Ilal, Ben Kapileo, Rudy Sablan, Herbert Rosario, Rita Camacho, Cris Amirez, Nicolas Santos, Martin San Nicolas, Matco Masga, Remedio Mafnas, Cecilia Rosario, Ramon Seman and Martin Pangelinan; and

WHEREAS, the staff gave due respect and attention to the needs of the delegates, devoted long hours so that the Convention could successfully complete its assigned task, and performed their duties with high standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas

Constitutional Convention extends its appreciation and thanks to the staff

of the Convention for their assistance and outstanding performance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to every member of the staff of the Constitutional Convention of the Northern Mariana Islands.

ADOPTED: December 4, 1976

Lorenzo I. Guerrero Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig Convention Secretary

Resolution No. 11

#### A RESOLUTION

#### Concerning historical site and objects.

WHEREAS, this Constitutional Convention has met and deliberated for fifty days beginning October 18, 1976, with the goal of formulating the fundamental law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, this Constitutional Convention despite ardent debate and occasional doubt has persevered in unity to the accomplishment of its goal; and

WHEREAS, this Constitutional Convention has approved a Constitution that establishes the right of self-government for all of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, the achievement of self-government fulfills a dream and stands as the most significant achievement in the political history of the Northern Marianas people; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands desire to remember this achievement forever;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Saipan Beach
Inter-Continental Inn, as the site of this momentous
Constitutional Convention, be recognized as a site of
historical importance to the people of the Northern Mariana
Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the flags of the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States of America that have faced each delegate to this Constitutional Convention for each of the past fifty days, have constantly reminded each

delegate of the goal of this Constitutional Convention and have symbolized the unity of the Commonwealth, be preserved as historical objects for the people of the Northern

Mariana Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the gavel used by the President of this Convention, as the symbol of the order and determination that guided this Constitutional Convention to its ultimate success, be preserved as an historical object for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Convention Secretary be requested to transmit copies of this resolution to the Resident Commissioner of the Northern Mariana Islands and the President of the Saipan Beach Inter-Continental Inn.

ADOPTED: December 3, 1976

Lorenzo I. Guerrero Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig

Dune 5 (Lorenzo 1. Guerrero, Delegate Pedro L. Igital; Delegate Esteven M. King, Delegate Jose P. Mafnas, Delegate Benjamin T. Manglona, Delegate Prudencio T. Manglona, Delegate Vicente M. Manglona, Delegate Pedro M. Ogo, Delegate Leon I. Taisacan, Delegate Juan P. Tenorlo, Delegate Manuel A. Tenorio, Delegate Ramon G. Villagomez, Delegate

Resolution No. \_\_\_12\_\_

#### A RESOLUTION

Extending the appreciation of the Convention to Howard N. Mantel, Esquire.

WHEREAS, Howard N. Mantel, Esquire, has served this Convention as a valued legal consultant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mantel has demonstrated great sensitivity to the needs of the Northern Marianas people; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mantel has devoted his substantial energy and capacity to furthering the important task of the Convention; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mantel assiduously assisted the Committee on Finance,
Local Government and Other Matters to discharge its responsibilities with
wisdom and dispatch;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention extend its appreciation to Howard N. Mantel, Esquire, for his substantial contributions to the work of the Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Howard N. Mantel, Esquire, to the Institute of Public Administration, New York, and to the Office of Transition Studies and Planning, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenza 1. Guerrero Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig Convention Secretary

Resolution No. 13

#### A RESOLUTION

Extending the appreciation of the Convention to Deanne C. Siemer, Esquire.

WHEREAS, Deanne C. Siemer, Esquire, has served with distinction as a legal consultant to this Convention;

WHEREAS, Mo. Siemer has devoted her acute legal talents to assisting the Convention in protecting the personal rights of the Northern Marianas people and in preserving their precious natural resources;

WHEREAS, Ms. Siemer has provided wise counsel to the Convention on a wide variety of constitutional issues; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Siemer has perceptively translated the aspirations of the Northern Marianas people into constitutional language;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention extend its appreciation to Deanne C. Siemer, Esquire, for her substantial contributions to the work of the Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Deanne C. Siemer, Esquire, to the Office of Transition Planning and Studies, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, and to the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering, Washington, D.C.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo I/ Guerrero

Convention President

ATTEST:

Convention Secretary

- 81111 -

Resolution No. 14\_

#### A RESOLUTION

Regarding the Consideration of the Constitution by the People of the Northern Mariana Islands.

WHEREAS, the Northern Mariana Constitutional Convention has adopted a Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth in Political Union with the United States provides that the Constitution be submitted to the Northern Marianas people for their consideration in a referendum; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that all the people fully understand each of the provisions of the proposed Constitution in order to determine whether to approve the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable that all persons qualified to vote in the Northern Mariana Islands participate in the referendum; and

WHEREAS, the Covenant conditions the effectiveness of the Constitution on approval by the United States government following ratification by the Northern Marianas people;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention urge the Northern Mariana Islands Legislature to establish a Committee in Support of the Constitution whose membership will include delegates to this Convention, members of the Legislature, representatives of the Office of Transition Studies and Planning, and community, professional and business leaders and will represent the islands and cultural and ethnic groups of the Northern Marianas for the purpose of promoting support for the Constitution among the people and its approval by the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee utilize the most appropriate and effective means of political education to explain the Constitution to the people; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee retain such professional assistance as it requires to conduct the program of political education and to secure United States approval of the Constitution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature appropriate sufficient funds for the Committee to fulfill its objectives;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Speaker of the Northern Mariana Islands Legislature and to the Resident Commissioner of the Northern Marlama Islands.

ADOUTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo I. Guerrero Convention President

ATTEST:

Resolution No. 15

#### A RESOLUTION

Extending thanks and appreciation to Monsignor Tomas Camacho, Sr. Bernadita, Mount Carmel Student Body and Miss Lily Dael.

WHEREAS, the Constitution for the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas was signed on December 5, 1976, at Mount Carmel Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention is deeply indebted to Monsignor Tomas Camacho, Sister Bernadita, Mount Carmel . Student Body and Miss Lily Dael for their generous assistance in providing the facilities and settings for the signing ceremonies; and

WHEREAS, without the assistance of these individuals the ceremonies will not have been a success;

NOW, THEREI JRE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention that its delegates express and extend their appreciation and thanks to the above individuals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to send a copy of the text of this Resolution to Monsignor Tomas Camacho, Sister Bernadita, Mount Carmel Student Body and Miss Lily Dael.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo I./Guerrero

Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig

Resolution No. 16

#### A RESOLUTION

Adopting the "Analysis of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

WHEREAS, the legal consultants to the Convention have prepared an "Analysis of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands"; and

WHERFAS, the Convention has considered the Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Analysis describes the provisions of the Constitution and discusses the intention of the Constitution in adopting those provisions, but does not itself have the force of law;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Constitution adopt the "Analysis of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands" and direct that it be available to the Northern Marianas people along with the Constitution for their consideration in determining whether to approve the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be attached to and printed with the "Analysis of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig

Resolution No. 17

#### A RESOLUTION

Requesting the United States Government to Approve Expeditiously the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

WHEREAS, the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention has adopted a Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and, by the President of the Convention, has transmitted the Constitution to the Resident Commissioner for submission to the people;

WHEREAS, within the next three months the people will vote on whether to approve the Constitution:

WHEREAS, upon approval by the people the Constitution will be placed before the United States government for its consideration;

WHEREAS, the Constitution reflects the political aspirations of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands as expressed by their elected representatives sitting in Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands urgently desire to attain constitutional government in political union with the United States of America at the earliest possible moment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention request the United States government to accord prompt consideration to approval of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands following its approval by the people; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the President of the United States.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo L. Guerrero

Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig

Convention Secretary

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Resolution No. 18

#### A RESOLUTION

Concerning the Commonwealth song.

WHEREAS, "GI Talo GI Halom Tani" is a song of great significance to the Northern Marlanas people; and

WHEREAS, the song has long been identified with the hopes and aspirations of the Northern Marianas people;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Convention urge the Northern Mariana Islands Legislature to adopt "Gi Talo Gi Halom Tasi" as the Commonwealth song; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the Legislature of the Northern Mariana Islands.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo G. Guerrero Convention President

A'TTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig Convention Secretary

Resolution No. 19

#### A RESOLUTION

Extending the appreciation of the Convention to "The Islanders".

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth song has deep meaning for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, "The Islanders" performed the Commonwealth song with musical skill and artistic sensitivity during the signing ceremonies for the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, "The Islanders" performance enhanced the beauty of a momentous occasion in the history of the Northern Mariana Islands;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention express its appreciation to each of the members of "The Islanders", David K. Peter, Ricardo R. Marciano, Canicio M. Limes and Manuel K. Villagomez; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit copies of this Resolution to David K. Peter, Ricardo R. Marciano, Canicio M. Limes, and Manuel K. Villagomez.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo V. Guerrero Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalia Convention Secretary

Resolution	No.	21

#### A RESOLUTION

Expressing the appreciation of the Convention to Mrs. Jacqueline Nufrlo and Mrs. Stacy Pounds.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jacqueline Nufrio and Mrs. Stacy Pounds have rendered invaluable service to this Convention by assisting its delegates and legal consultants in the preparation of a massive body of committee reports, delegate proposals, delegate amendments, drafts of constitutional language, a thorough analysis of the Constitution, Convention Journals and the actual draft Constitution itself; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Nufrio and Mrs. Pounds have devoted their full energies to assisting the Convention in meeting its weighty responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Nufrio and Mrs. Pounds have performed their duties with polished competence and flawless grace;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas

Constitutional Convention extend its appreciation to Mrs. Jacqueline Nufrio

and Mrs. Stacy Pounds for their substantial contributions to the work of

the Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Mrs. Jacqueline Nufrio, Mrs. Stacy Founds and to the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering, Washington, D.C.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo C Guerrero
Convention President

ATTEST:

Pedro M. Atalig Convention Secretary

Resolution No	. 20	D
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#### A RESOLUTION

Extending the appreciation of the Convention to Howard P. Willens, Enquire.

WHEREAS, Howard P. Willens, Esquire, has displayed a continuing concern for the interests and welfare of the Northern Marianas people for over four years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Willens first devoted his empacious legal and personal talents to the representation of the Northern Marianas people as counsel to the Marianas Political Status Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States as a landmark to Mr. Willens' professional ability; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Willens has served this Convention with selflessness and impartiality as its chief legal consultant;

MOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Constitutional Convention of the Northern Mariana Islands extend its appreciation to Howard P. Willens, Esquire, for his substantial contributions to the work of the Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Howard P. Willens, Esquire, to the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering, Washington, D.C., and to the Office of Transition Studies and Planning, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo\_I. Guerrero Convention President

Pedro M. Atalig

Resolution No. 22

#### A RESOLUTION

Extending the appreciation of the Convention to Paul S. Koffsky, Robert A. Major, A. Mark Weisburd and Neil Solomon.

WHEREAS, Paul S. Koffsky, Robert A. Major, A. Mark Weisburd and Neil Solomon have served with distinction as legal consultants to the Constitutional Convention of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, each of these attorneys has ably and diligently assisted the three substantive committees of the Convention; and

WHEREAS, each of these attorneys was receptive to the requests of the delegates and performed their assignments promptly, effectively and with good humor; and

WHEREAS, each of these lawyers labored exceptionally long hours and performed prodigiously and professionally in assisting the work of the Convention:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Marianas

Constitutional Convention extend its appreciation to Paul S. Koffsky,

Robert A. Major, A. Mark Weißburd and Neil Solomon for their contributions

to the Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Paul S. Koffsky, Robert A. Major, A. Mark Weisburd and Neil Solomon and to the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering, Washington, D.C.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1976

Lorenzo I. Guerrero Convention President

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Pedro M. Atalig

ATTEST:

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### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

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