

November 19, 1976

PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO ARTICLE II, SECTION 3

It is proposed that article II, section 3 of the draft Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Section 3: Composition of the House of Representatives.

a) The House of Representatives shall consist of ~~thirty-(30)~~ fifteen (15) members with ~~twenty-five-(25)~~ thirteen (13) members from Saipan ~~and including~~ the islands north of Saipan, ~~three-(3)~~ one (1) member from Rota and ~~two-(2)~~ one (1) member from Tinian and including Aguiguan provided, however, that the number of representatives may be increased to not more than ~~forty-(40)~~ twenty (20). The term of office for representatives shall be two (2) years. In elections for representatives, including those for nomination, each elector may cast the number of votes equal to the number of candidates running for the House of Representatives from the respective island or islands. Each elector may cast his votes for one (1) candidate or distribute them among the several candidates. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

b) A representative shall be a qualified voter of the ~~Commonwealth~~ Northern Marianas, a United States citizen or national, at least twenty-one (21) years of age, and a resident of the ~~Commonwealth~~ Northern Marianas for at least three (3) years immediately preceding his election. A longer residency requirement may be provided by law.

Offered by,

Luis A. Benavente