

November 20, 1976PROPOSED 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~~ fifteen members with ~~twenty-five~~ twelve members from Saipan and the islands north of Saipan, ~~three~~ two members from Rota and ~~two~~ one members from Tinian and Aguiguan provided, however, that the number of representatives may be increased by law to not more than ~~forty~~ twenty-five. The term of office for representatives shall be two years.

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

c) Rota shall constitute one electoral district, Tinian and Aguiguan shall constitute one electoral district, ~~the islands north of Saipan shall constitute one electoral district,~~ and Saipan shall be divided into six electoral districts for the election of representatives. The legislature may change the number and boundaries of the electoral districts used for electing representatives but no district on Rota and Saipan shall consist of more than one island. For ten years following the effective date of this Constitution, the legislature shall not change the electoral districts on Saipan ~~and the islands north of Saipan~~ except pursuant to its duties under section 4 of this article.

Offered by,

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Benigno R. Fitial