

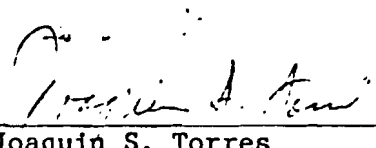
November 2, 1976

PROPOSED AMENDMENT  
TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 9

It is proposed that article IV, section 9 of the draft Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Section 9: Rule-Making Power. The judiciary of the Northern Mariana Islands may establish rules governing civil and criminal procedure, judicial ethics, admission to and governance of the bar of the Northern Mariana Islands, and other matters of judicial administration provided, however, that any proposed rule shall be promptly submitted to the legislature and shall become effective sixty (60) days after its proposal unless disapproved by either house of the legislature. Nothing in this provision shall be construed, however, to authorize any rule preventing any person who is practicing law in the Commonwealth when this Constitution takes effect from continuing to practice. Until rules are established pursuant to this article, the rules governing such matters in the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands shall apply in the Commonwealth courts.

Offered by,

  
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Joaquin S. Torres