

November 30, 1976

CHANGES FOR STYLE,  
CONSISTENCY AND CLARITY  
RECOMMENDED BY THE CONSULTANTS

ARTICLE VI: LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Section 1: Local Government. ~~There shall be~~  
Agencies of local government established shall be established  
as provided by this article.

Section 2: Election of Mayor. The qualified  
voters ~~from~~ of Rota, Saipan, Tinian and Aguiguan, and the  
islands north of Saipan shall elect a mayor to perform the  
responsibilities specified in this article for each island  
or group of islands.

a) A mayor shall be ~~a~~ qualified to voter vote  
~~of~~ in the Commonwealth, ~~a-United-States-citizen-or-national,~~  
at least twenty-five ~~(25)~~ years of age, a resident and domiciliary  
of the Commonwealth for at least three ~~(3)~~ years immediately  
preceding the date on which the mayor takes office, and shall  
meet ~~such~~ other qualifications ~~as-may-be~~ provided by law. No  
person convicted of a felony in the Commonwealth or in an area  
under the jurisdiction of the United States may be eligible  
for this office unless a full pardon has been granted.

b) A mayor shall be elected at a regular general  
election for a term of office of four ~~(4)~~ years. A vacancy in

the office of mayor shall be filled by special election if more-than one-half or more  $\{1/2\}$  of the term remains and otherwise as provided by law. ~~A-mayor-may-be-subject-to recall--under-the-provisions-of-artiele-IX,-section-3-~~

Section 3: Responsibilities of Mayor.

a) The A mayor shall serve on the governor's council ~~of-mayers-provided-by~~ established under section 5 of this article.

b) The A mayor shall review the ~~adequacy-of~~ the ~~governmental~~ government services and the appropriations provided by law for the island or islands he serves and may shall submit to the governor any findings or recommendations regarding relating to these services or appropriations ~~to-the-governor.~~

c) The A mayor may investigate complaints and conduct public hearings ~~regarding-any~~ with respect to local matters ~~of-local-concern~~ and may submit any findings or recommendations ~~on-such-subject~~ to the governor, ~~and-other~~ ~~appropriate-agencies-of-the-Commonwealth.~~

d) The A mayor shall ~~propose~~ recommend items for inclusion in the proposed annual budget, review the proposed budget before its submission by the governor to the legislature, and recommend amendments in the proposed budget relating to the island or islands served by the a mayor. A any-proposal recommendation relating to the budget made by the a mayor shall be considered by the ~~responsible-Commonwealth~~ ~~official~~ governor and rejected only for good cause.

e) The A mayor may promulgate rules and regulations on local matters pursuant to authority as provided by law.

f) The A mayor may expend for local public purposes such the revenues as are raised by local taxes that are designated by law for such those purposes provided, however, that these after the expenditures shall be specifically are authorized by the legislature or by the affirmative vote of a majority of the representatives and senators members of the legislature representing the island or islands served by the a mayor.

g) The A mayor may appoint, and supervise and remove such those employees as are provided by law to assist in the performance of his mayoral responsibilities.

h) The A mayor shall perform such other responsibilities as that are specified by law.

Section 4: Compensation of Mayor. The A mayor shall receive an annual salary and a reasonable allowance for expenses from Commonwealth revenues as provided by law. The salary of the a mayor may not be decreased during his a term of office. Salaries and expenses for any assistants to the a mayor shall be paid by local taxes designated by law for such purposes provided, however, that these salaries as provided by law.

Section 5: Governor's Council. The mayors elected pursuant to section 2 and the executive assistant appointed under article III, section 18, shall be members of a governor's council that shall advise the governor on local and ethnic matters. The governor shall preside over the council which shall meet at least four times each year to consider matters concerning the relationship between the Commonwealth and its separate islands and among ethnic groups in the Commonwealth.

Section 6: Other Agencies of Local Government.

a) The chartered municipality form of local government shall cease to exist on the effective date of this Constitution. Local taxes paid to the chartered municipal governments on Rota, Saipan and Tinian shall remain in effect until otherwise provided by law and shall may be expended for local public purposes on the island or islands producing those revenues if authorized by the legislature or by the affirmative vote of a majority of the representatives-and-senators members of the legislature from the island-or-islands applicable senatorial district. ~~for-local-public-purposes-on-the-island-or-islands-producing such-revenues.~~ Ordinances and other ~~rules~~ regulations enacted by municipal councils on Rota, Saipan and Tinian that are consistent with this Constitution shall remain in effect until superseded by Commonwealth law or local

ordinances or regulations enacted under this Constitution.

b) No additional agency of local government ~~shall~~ may be established for at least five (5) years from the effective date of ~~the~~ this Constitution, after which the legislature may then establish agencies of local government in place of or in addition to the agencies provided for in this article with ~~such~~ powers, elected ~~officers~~ officials and financing as ~~may-be~~ provided by law. Agencies of local government ~~shall~~ may not be created for geographical units ~~other-than-Rota,-Saipan,-Tinian-and-the-islands-north-of-Saipan;~~ smaller than an individual island. No New agencies of local government ~~shall~~ may not be established without the ~~approval-of~~ affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the ~~qualified-voters-residing-on~~ persons qualified to vote from the island or islands to be served by the agency of local government