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SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, 1985

DELEGATE PROPOSAL No. 157-85

PROPOSAL REGARDING: Article IV, Section 2.

Section 2. Commonwealth Trial Court. ~~The legislature shall establish a Commonwealth trial court.~~ The Commonwealth trial court shall have original jurisdiction in all cases in equity and in all cases at law which involve land in the Commonwealth, and in all other civil actions. The court shall also have original jurisdiction in all criminal actions. At least one full-time judge shall be assigned to civil and criminal actions filed in Rota and Tinian. The legislature shall determine the number of judges. (all others deleted).

Section 3. Commonwealth Appeals Court. The legislature may establish a Commonwealth appeals court to hear those appeals from judgments and orders of the Commonwealth trial court. (all others deleted)

Section 4. Appointment and Qualifications. The governor shall appoint judges of the Commonwealth courts with the advice and consent of the senate. The judges of the Commonwealth courts shall be elected at large within the Commonwealth at the time at which a governor is elected upon the adoption of this section. The term of office shall be as provided by law, except that no judge shall serve his office for more than six years. A judge shall be at least thirty five years of age, a citizen or national of the United States and possess other qualifications provided by law.

Dated: 6/2/85

PROPOSED BY: Juan T. Lizama

COMMITTEE: _____