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A PROPOSAL

To amend Section 7 a) and b) and to delete Section 7 c) in its entirety of Article II of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution

BE IT ADOPTED BY THE SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION:

1 Section 1. Section 7 (a) and (b) of Article II of the Northern
2 Mariana Islands Constitutional is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "Section 7: Action on Legislation by the Governor."

4 "a) *Every bill enacted shall be signed by the*
5 *presiding officer of the house in which the bill originated*
6 *and transmitted to the governor. If the governor signs the*
7 *bill, it shall become law. If the governor vetoes the bill,*
8 *it shall be returned to the presiding officer of each house*
9 *of the legislature with a statement of the reasons for the*
10 *veto. The governor may veto an item of section in an*
11 *appropriation bill and sign the remainder of the bill.*

12 Every bill enacted shall be signed by the presiding officer
13 of the house in which the bill originated and transmitted
14 to the governor. If the legislature is in session, it shall
15 become law if the governor signs or fails to sign it within
16 fifteen days of presentation. If the legislature is in
17 recess or, if the session of the legislature has expired
18 during such fifteen-day period, it shall become law if he
19 signs it within thirty days after such adjournment or
20 expiration. If the governor does not approve a bill, he
21 shall veto it and return it to the legislature with a

1 statement of reasons for the veto either within fifteen
2 days of presentation if the legislature is in session
3 or upon the reconvening of the legislature from its
4 recess. Any bill so returned by the governor shall be
5 reconsidered by the legislature and shall agree to pass
6 the bill, it shall become law.

7 b) *The governor shall have twenty days in which*
8 *to consider appropriation bills and forty days in which*
9 *to consider other bills. If the governor fails either*
10 *to sign or veto a bill within the applicable period, it*
11 *shall become law.*

12 The governor may strike out or reduce items in appropriate
13 bills passed by the legislature and the procedure in such
14 cases shall be the same as in case of the disapproval of
15 an entire bill by the governor.

16 Section 2. Section 7(c) of Article II of the Northern Marianas
17 Constitution is hereby deleted in its entirety.

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19 Date: 6/27/85

Offered by: *JPM*
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