



Saipan Chamber of Commerce

P. O. Box 806, Saipan, C.M. 96950

June 29, 1985

Del. Lorenzo I. Guerrero
Chairman
Committee on Finance & Other Matters
Second Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention
House of Taqa
Saipan, CM 96950

Dear Chairman Guerrero:

Thank you for inviting the Chamber of Commerce to comment on these Constitutional Convention proposals.

The Chamber's Government Relations committee has analyzed these proposals and the committee respectfully requests that the following comments be given careful consideration before adopting these proposals.

Comments

4-85 Code of Ethics for public officers and employees of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government.

The Chamber of Commerce believes that public officers and employees of the three branches of government should uphold the highest standards of ethics in carrying out their duties as leaders in the community. Therefore, the proposal for a code of ethics is fully supported by the Chamber.

108-85 To provide for a new seal and flag of the Northern Marianas.

The Chamber of Commerce has no objections to the Official Seal of the Northern Marianas so that both Chamorros and Carolinians are represented

6-85 To require public bidding for all goods and services required by the Commonwealth government.

The Chamber believes that public bidding for goods and services procured by the government should only be required in those instances when substantial government expenditure is made. Therefore, there should be a floor

limitation. For example public bidding should only be required for expenditures over \$1,000. Additionally, the requirement that no government officers or member of the legislature or member of immediate family shall have any interest in any bid or contract to furnish any goods or services should be extended to cover business entities in which the government officers or legislators have an interest.

41- 85 To require that all CIP funds for Rota & Tinian be controlled by the mayors of those senatorial districts.

The Chamber feels this issue is too political and wish not to comment on this proposal.

31-85 To prohibit the imposition of real estate tax.

The Chamber fully support the proposal to prohibit the imposition of real estate taxes.

66-85 To amend Article X of the Constitution relating to Taxation and Public Finance.

The Chamber has no comment.

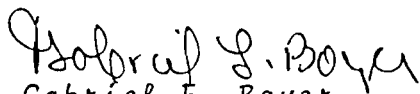
69- 85 To divide the interest from the Tinian military land lease among the senatorial districts of Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

72-85 To add a new article to the Constitution relating to gambling devices.

The Chamber believes that these proposals would be more properly addressed at the legislative level rather than making it a provision of the Constitution

Again, we appreciate the opportunity you have given us to submit our comments and we look forward to working closely with you in future.

Sincerely,


Gabriel F. Boyer
Executive Director