

REPORT TO THE CONVENTION BY THE
COMMITTEE ON PERSONAL RIGHTS & NATURAL RESOURCES

Subject: Committee Recommendation No. 16

The Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources recommends that the Convention meeting in Committee of the Whole adopt the attached proposed constitutional amendment with respect to ratification of constitutional amendments.

The Committee's recommended constitutional amendment would permit proposed amendments to be ratified at a special election established by law, rather than requiring that ratification be concurrent with a general election, as is presently the case.

Currently, the Constitution requires that amendments be ratified at the next regular general election that is held at least sixty days after the amendment is proposed. Your Committee feels that two months may not be a sufficient period for public education in every case. Additionally, the existing provision could result in an important amendment having to wait two years for ratification, if it was proposed shortly before or after a general election.

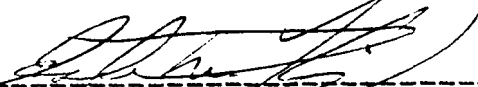
Your Committee did not reach a conclusion on what period of time is the "right" amount of time for public education. Instead, we felt that this might vary depending on circumstances. To cope with this situation, the proposed amendment would give the legislature flexibility to set a special election for ratification of proposed amendments, allowing an appropriate period for public education.

Delegate Proposals: Your Committee carefully considered two delegate proposals in its deliberations, Delegate Proposal No. 77-85 and Delegate Proposal No. 112-85. The attached committee recommendation represents our best judgement relating to the issues and approaches presented by those proposals.


- Approved by Committee of the Whole and adopted by Convention on Tuesday, July 9th 1985.

Therefore, your Committee strongly urges all delegates to support the attached committee recommendation.

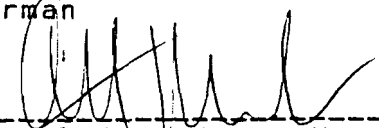
Respectfully submitted,



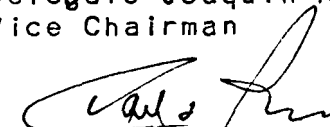
Delegate Esteven M. King
Chairman



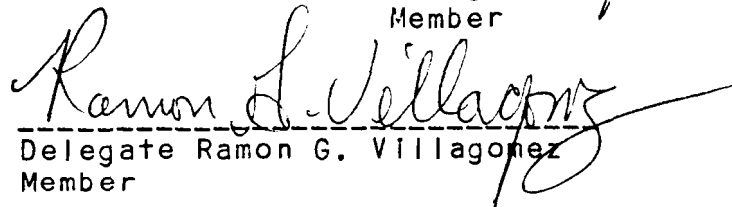
Delegate Joaquin A. Tenorio
Vice Chairman



Delegate Aniceto H. Mundo
Member



Delegate Karl T. Reyes
Member



Delegate Ramon G. Villagomez
Member