

SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION  
of the  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
Convention Hall - House of Taga  
Saipan, CM 96950

SUMMARY JOURNAL

Sunday, July 7, 1985

Twentieth Day

The 20th day session of the Second Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention was called to order July 7, 1985 (Sunday) by President Herman T. Guerrero at 3:18 p.m. All 24 members were present. The Summary Journal for July 6, 1985 was adopted by a unanimous voice vote. The four convention committees had no reports to offer. There were no introductions of proposals. Shortly after the session convened, the body dissolved into a Committee of the Whole (by voice vote) to discuss Committee Recommendations (CR) 15 and 16 which had been submitted by the Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources. President Guerrero appointed Delegate Maria Pangelinan of Saipan to chair the Committee of the Whole. Committee <sup>Recommendation</sup> Report 15 involved Section 3(b) of Article II which concerns the composition of the House of Representatives. The change would have eliminated the present six (6) Saipan legislative districts specified by the Constitution in favor of a single legislative district. The effect would be to make voting for House seats on Saipan "at-large". Committee Recommendation 16 involved Session 5 (a) of Article XVIII which concerns ratification by the voters of constitutional amendments proposed by a future Constitutional Convention. The effect would be to allow a special election to be set to consider the proposals, rather than requiring that they be considered at the time of the next scheduled general election.

After the deliberation of the Committee of the Whole, the session reconvened with President Herman T. Guerrero returning to the Chair. Delegate Maria T. Pangelinan reported that the Committee of the Whole rejected CR No. 15 and adopted CR No. 16. The motion to adopt the Committee of the Whole recommendation and to consider CR No. 16 on First Reading carried by voice vote.

In miscellaneous business, Delegate William Nabors of Tinian complained about poor attendance at public hearings by various department heads and other public officials, saying witnesses had been "cavalier" both about appearing and submitting information. Both Delegate Nabors and Delegate Lorenzo Guerrero threatened to use subpoena powers of the Constitutional Convention, should the situation continue. President Guerrero said that a letter being prepared to Governor Tenorio would request that the officials be requested to more fully cooperate with the Constitutional Convention. Following announcements, the session adjourned at about 6:13 p.m. to reconvene for a general session at 2 p.m., July 8, 1985 at the House of Taga.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Delegate William B. Nabors  
Convention Secretary