

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

Subject: Committee Recommendation No. 18

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 day general elections shall be held.

The Committee's recommended constitutional amendment would have general elections held on Saturdays, rather than Sundays as at present.

Your Committee believes that changing the day of the regular general election to Saturday would result in greater convenience for voters and less work time lost. The later would be of great benefit to the government, private employers, and the public alike, as it would reduce losses of productivity and income arising from the electoral process.

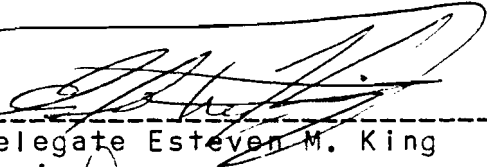
Your Committee notes that it now takes well into the day following the election to complete the process of tabulating election results. As most voters like to stay at home or at the homes of friends until they get the election results, and tabulators must stay away from their jobs in order to complete their work and then get some rest, much work time is lost on Monday and Tuesday when the election is held on Sunday. With the election held on Saturday, most people will be back to work on Monday, and everybody should be back by Tuesday.

Delegate Proposals: Your Committee carefully considered two delegate proposals in its deliberations, Delegate Proposal No. 80-85 and Delegate Proposal No. 101-85. Both proposals sought to change the day of election to Tuesday to make the CNMI general election coincide with U.S. elections. Your Committee rejected this approach for several reasons. First, holding the general election on Tuesday would result in nearly a full week of lost work due to the time it takes to tabulate the election results and the intensity with which our people are involved in the political process. Second, it is virtually impossible to make our elections truly coincide with mainland elections, due to the international date line and the enormous difference in time zones. Third, your Committee saw no compelling need to attempt to make our elections coincide with U.S. elections. And finally, making our general elections coincide with general elections in the states would

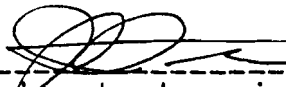
require a complicated readjustment in the terms of our elected officials, since U.S. elections are currently held a full year before our elections.

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

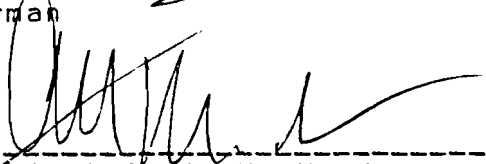
Respectfully submitted,



Delegate Esteven M. King
Chairman



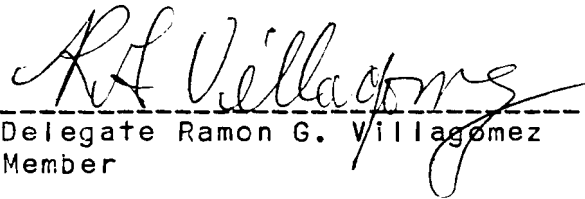
Delegate Joaquin A. Tenorio
Vice Chairman



Delegate Aniceto H. Mundo
Member



Delegate Karl T. Reyes
Member



Delegate Ramon G. Villagomez
Member

SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, 1985

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION NO. 18

A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

To amend Article VIII, Section 1 to change the day of the regular general election to Saturday.

BE IT ADOPTED BY THE SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION:

Upon ratification pursuant to Section 5 of Article XVIII of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution and Public Law No. 4-30, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is amended as follows:

- 1 I. Effective upon ratification, Section 1 of Article VIII
2 is amended to read:
3 "Section 1. Regular General Election. The regular
4 general election of the Commonwealth shall be held on the
5 first Saturday in November."
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11 Committee on Personal Rights
12 and Natural Resources
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Adopted by vote of the whole

Adopted on 2nd/Final Reading on 7/10/85

SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

SAIPAN, CM 96950

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6517/6572

Officers

Herman T. Guerrero, President
Vicente M. Calvo, 1st Vice President
David M. Cing, 2nd Vice President
Maria T. Pangelinan, 3rd Vice President
William B. Nabors, Convention Secretary
Juan T. Lizama, Floor Leader

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COMMITTEE ON PERSONAL RIGHTS & NATURAL RESOURCES

Members

Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero
Alonzo Iglisomar
David L. Igitol
Rita H. Inos
Benusto R. Kalpat
Estevan M. King
Luis M. Limes
Jesus P. Mafnas
Paul A. Manglona
James M. Mendiola
Aniceto H. Mundo
Felicidad T. Ogunoro
Karl T. Reyes
Joaquin A. Tenorio
Francisco Tomokane
William S. Torres
Ramon G. Villagomez
Ignacio Villanueva

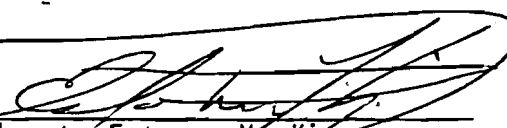
Subject: Committee Recommendation No. 18

The Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources met and deliberated on Delegate Proposal No. 80-85 and recommends that the Convention meeting in Committee of the Whole adopt the proposed amendments to the Constitution relative to Section 1 of Article VIII, "Regular General Election" to read as follows:

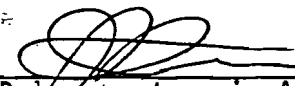
"Section 1: Regular General Election. The regular general election of the Commonwealth shall be held on the first ~~Tuesday~~ after the first Monday Saturday in November."

Your Committee recommends that the amendments made to Delegate Proposal No. 80-85 be adopted as Delegate Proposal No. 80-85, as amended, and urge the unanimous endorsement of the members.


Respectfully submitted,



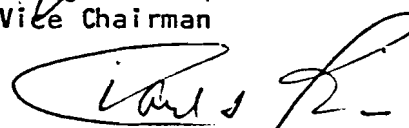
Delegate Estevan M. King,
Chairman



Delegate Joaquin A. Tenorio,
Vice Chairman



Delegate Aniceto H. Mundo,
Member



Delegate Karl T. Reyes,
Member



Delegate Ramon G. Villagomez, Member