

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

SUMMARY JOURNAL

Monday, July 8, 1985

Twenty-first Day

The session for the 21st day of the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention was called to order at 2:20 p.m., by President Herman T. Guerrero. The Verbatim Journal for the 10th Day and the Summary Journal for the 20th Day (7/7/85) were adopted by voice vote. No communications were received. The Committees on Governmental Institutions, Finance and Other Matters and Local Government offered no reports. Delegate Esteven King of Tinian, Chairman of the Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources submitted Committee Recommendation (CR) No. 18, concerning Section 1, Article VIII which would change the day for the regular general election from Sunday to Saturday. CR No. 18 was introduced for consideration on First Reading.

On Second and Final Reading, CR No. 16 was brought up for consideration. Floor Leader Juan Lizama proposed an amendment to CR No. 16 which would require that voters have no less than 60 days to consider proposed future constitutional amendments and no more than a year. The amendment also would require that the proposals be considered at special elections during that period. The existing constitutional language requires that the proposals be considered at a general election and that voters have no less than sixty-days (60) to consider the measures. Some were concerned that proposals would then have to wait two years for the next general election. CR No. 16 proposed that the legislature be allowed to set special elections to consider future constitutional proposals. After discussion of the Lizama's amendment, debate was ended and the amendment was rejected on a 19-5 vote. After further discussion of CR No. 16, the measure passed on a 20-3 roll call vote.

There was no Unfinished Business, no Special Orders of the Day, no General Orders of the Day and no Miscellaneous Business. After announcements of public hearings, a motion was made and passed at 3:14 p.m., to adjourn until 3:00 p.m., July 9, 1985 at the House of Taga.

Respectfully submitted,


Delegate William B. Nabors
Convention Secretary