

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

SUMMARY JOURNAL

Wednesday, July 10, 1985

Twenty-third Day

The session for the 23rd day of the Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention was called to order at 2:24 p.m, by President Herman T. Guerrero with all 24 members present. The Summary Journal for the 22nd Day (July 9, 1985) was adopted by a voice vote. Communications were received concerning overtime compension, and Public Laws 4-45 and 3-42, both titled "Nuclear and Chemical Free Zone." Legal Opinions 27, 28, 29, and 30 were received, concerning "rights gained by an alien who has been permitted to vote in an election," "submission of budget by the mayor of the island to the legislature," "voting in an election as qualification," and "veto authority". Legal Opinion No. 32 concerning abortion has been assigned to the Governor's Special Legal Advisor.

At 2:37 p.m, the Convention took a 5 minute recess to distribute Committee recommendations and a supplemental Order of Business. At 2:41 p.m., the session resumed.

The Committee on Local Government offered no report. Chairman Juan Lizama of the Committee on Governmental Institutions read Committee Recommendation Nos. 25, 26, 31, and 32. The first proposal establishes the Civil Service Commission in a separate article in the Constitution, the second adds a new section concerning the Resident Representative to the United States, the third adds Section 17 (b) to Article III concerning Public Office. Chairman Esteven King of the Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources read Committee Recommendation Nos. 27, 28, and 29. The first would change the definition of citizenship in the "Schedule on Transitional Matters," the second would incorporate the right to a "clean and healthful environment in the Constitution and the third would expand the number of islands which will remain uninhabited for conservation and other purposes. Chairman Lorenzo Guerrero of the Committee on Finance and Other Matters read Committee Recommendation Nos. 30, 33, and 34. The first concerns inclusion of a "Code of Ethics" in Article XVII, the second a statement of "Public Purpose in Article X and the third concerned a change in Article III concerning the Public Auditor. The proposals will be calendared for consideration by the Committee of the Whole, July 11, 1985.

In Second and Final Reading, the delegates took up CR No. 18 which would amend Section 1, Article VIII to hold regular general elections on Saturday rather than Sunday. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the proposal passed 23-1.

At 2:50 p.m., Delegate Maria Pangelinan moved that the Convention resolve into a Committee of the Whole. Delegate Juan Lizama was appointed by the chair to preside.

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At 5:45 p.m., Delegate Maria Pangelinan moved that the Committee Rise and Report. President Guerrero resumed the chair and invited Assistant Secretary of the Interim for Territorial and International Affairs Richard Montoya to address the delegates.

Secretary Montoya announced the signing earlier in the afternoon of a 7-year agreement between the CNMI and the United States for financial assistance under the Covenant totalling \$228 million.

Following the speech by Assistant Secretary Montoya, at 5:53 p.m., Chairman Lizama reported to the Convention on the results of the Committee of the Whole. On a voice vote, CR Nos. 19 and 20 were adopted on First Reading as amended.

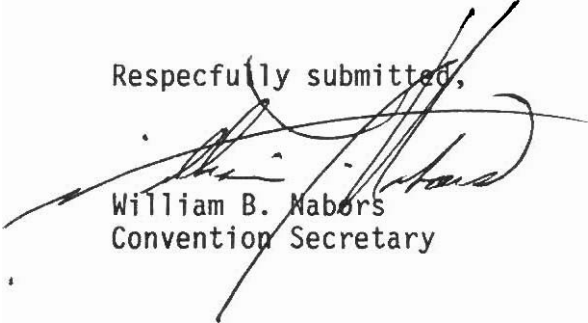
At 5:58 p.m., on a motion by Delegate Ramon Villagomez, the Convention recessed until 7:30 p.m.

The session resumed at 7:45 p.m., and President Herman T. Guerrero presiding. Delegate William Nabors moved again to resolve to a Committee of the Whole, with the Chair appointing Delegate David Cing to preside.

At 10:24 p.m., the Committee of the Whole rose, with President Guerrero resuming the chair. Delegate Cing reported the results of the Committee of the Whole. CR No. 22 (Long-term Interest in Real Property) was recommitted back to Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources, No. 23 (Property Tax Referendum) was adopted on First Reading and CR No. 24 (Legislative Budget Ceiling) was also adopted on First Reading, all by voice vote.

In Miscellaneous Business, Delegate Rita Inos congratulated Delegate David Cing for his performance as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. After announcements of public hearings and other matters, a motion was made and passed at 10:30 p.m., to adjourn until 1:00 p.m., July 11, 1985 at the House of Taga.

Respectfully submitted,



William B. Nabors  
Convention Secretary