## SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

SAIPAN, CM 96950

Officers

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

Members -

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

Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero Alonzo Igisomar 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. Ogumoro Karl T. Reyes Joaquin A. Tenorio Francisco Tomokane William S. Torres Ramon G. Villagomez Ignacio Villanueva

Subject: Analysis on Committee Recommendation No. 35

The Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources has submitted to the Convention Committee Recommendation No. 16 and proposed that it be adopted in the Committee of the whole and reported to the Convention. This is to provide the analysis on that committee recommendation and the reasons for such proposed amendment to the Constitution.

Recommendation No. 35 proposes that Article VII Section 1 of the Constitution be amended in order to add the statements that U.S. citizen or national means as such words are defined in Section 8(a), (b) and (c) of the Schedule on Transitional Matters of the Constitution. The purpose of that amendment would be to clarify the meaning of U.S. citizen or national as used in determining qualifications for voting in the CNMI and to prevent any confusion with the definition of U.S. citizen in Amendment 14 to the U.S. Constitution.

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Your Committee takes into consideration the fact that "United States citizen" as defined in the CNMI Constitution differs and is not the same as the definition of "U.S. citizen" under Amendment 14 of the United States Constitution. In order to clarify which definition of United States citizen we are referring to when we use such term, this proposed amendment is made to make that clarification. For the above reasons your committee recommends adoption of Committee Recommendation No. 16 and the proposed amendment therein. This proposal is based on Delegate Proposal No. 188-85.

Respectfully submitted,

Delegate Esteven M. King

Chairman

Delegate Joaquin A. Tenorio

Vie-Chairman

Delegate Karl T. Reyes Member

Delegate Aniceto H. Mundo Member

Delegate Ramon G.

Member

#### A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

To amend Section 1 of Article VII of the Northern Marianas Constitution relating to Qualification of Voters.

### 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 to read as follows:

Effective upon ratification, Section 1 of Article VII is amended to
 read:
 "Section 1: Qualification of Voters. A person is eligible to
 vote who, on the date of the election, is eighteen years of age or

older, is domiciled in the Commonwealth and has resided in the Commonwealth for a period of time provided by law, is not serving a sentence for a felony, has not been found by a court to be of unsound mind, and is either a citizen or national of the United States as

specifically defined in Section 8(a), (b) and (c) of the Schedule on

10 Transitional Matters of this Constitution.

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Committee on Personal Rights & Natural

Resources

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Maria T. Pangelinan, 3rd Vice PresidentCOMMITTEE ON PERSONAL RIGHTS & NATURAL RESOURCES
William B. Nabors, Convention Secretary
Juan T. Lizama, Floor Leader

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William S. Torres
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Ignacio Villanueva

SUBJECT: Committee Recommendation No.

35

The Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources met and deliberation on Delegate Proposal No. 188-85 and recommends that the Convention meeting in Committee of the Whole adopt the proposed to the Constitution relating to Qualification of Voters under Section 1 of Article VII, to read as follows:

"Section 1 Qualification of Voters. A person is eligible to vote who, on the date of the election, is eighteen years of age or older, is domiciled in the Commonwealth and has resided in the Commonwealth for a period of time provided by law, is not serving a sentence for a felony, has not been found by a court to be of unsound mind, and is either a citizen or national of the United States as specifically defined in Section 8(a), (b) and (c) of the Schedule on Transitional Matters of this Constitution. The Legislature hay require that person eligible to vote be dititled at the United States.

Your Committee recommends that the amendments made to Section 1 of Article VII of the Constitution be adopted and urge the unanimous endorsement of other members of the Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Delegate Esteven M. King

Chairman

Delegate Aniceto H. Mundo

Member

Delegate Joaquin A. Tenorio

Vice Chairman

Delegate Karl T. Reyes

Member

Delegate Ramon G. Villagome

Member

PRINR.

### PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Delegate Proposal No. 188-85

It is hereby proposed that Article VII, Section 1 of the CNMI Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Qualifications of Voters. A person is eligible to vote who, on the date of the election, is eighteen years of age or older, is domiciled in the Commonwealth, is a resident of the Commonwealth and has resided in the Commonwealth for a period of time provided by law, is not serving a sentence for a felony, has not been found by a court to be of unsound mind, and is either a citizen or national of the United States as specifically defined in Section 8(a)(b) and (c) of the Schedule on Transitional Matters of this Constitution.

Joaquin Tenorio

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