

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

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY

Sunday, July 14, 1985

The Second Constitutional Convention of the Northern Mariana Islands was called to order at 8:29 p.m., Sunday, July 14, 1985, in the Convention Hall - House of Taga, San Vicente, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Honorable Herman T. Guerrero, President, presided.

A moment of silent prayer or meditation was observed.

President H. Guerrero: Secretary Nabors, can you take the roll call please?

Secretary Nabors called the roll, and 22 members were present. Delegates Kaipat and Villagomez were absent.

Secretary Nabors: Mr. President, we have 22 delegates present.

President H. Guerrero: Thank you. We have a quorum and a majority to conduct the Order of Business. Floor Leader Lizama?

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that we adopt the 26th Day's Summary Journal.

Delegate Mendiola seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to adopt the 26th Day's Summary Journal of Sunday, July 14, 1985. This should be Saturday and part Sunday. There is a correction here. Discussions? The Summary Journal should read "Saturday, July 13, 1985", I believe, the 26th Day.

Floor Leader Lizama: That's correct, Mr. President.

There being no discussion, the motion to adopt the 26th Day's Summary Journal of Sunday, July 14, 1985, was carried by voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication No. 18, from the Executive Director of the Mariana Islands Housing Authority, re Committee Recommendation No. 25.

President H. Guerrero: We only have one communication in front of you and I believe it is self-explanatory.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee Recommendation No. 49, from the Committee on Finance and Other Matters, recommending for adoption of Delegate Proposal No. 268-85,

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entitled: "To amend Article X, Section 4 to add the prohibition against public debt."

Committee Recommendation No. 50, from the Committee on Finance and Other Matters, recommending for adoption of Delegate Proposal Nos. 85-85 and 99-85, entitled: "To amend Section 9(a) and (b) of Article III of the Northern Marianas Constitution to mandate a balanced budget for the CNMI Government in every fiscal year."

Committee Recommendation No. 51, from the Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources, recommending for adoption of Delegate Proposal Nos. 41-85, 87-85, 133-85, 155-85, and 277-85, entitled: "To amend Article XI, Section 6(a) to provide for an increase in the number of trustees of the Marianas Public Land Trust from three to five."

Committee Recommendation No. 52, from the Committee on Governmental Institutions, recommending for adoption of Delegate Proposal Nos. 9-85, 46-85, and 248-85, entitled: "To amend Section 13 of Article II of the Northern Marianas Constitution relating to sessions."

Committee Recommendation No. 53, from the Committee on Governmental Institutions, recommending for adoption of Delegate Proposal No. 201-85, entitled: "To amend Section 2 of Article II of the Northern Marianas Constitution to add a new 'subsection (d)' relating to the Composition of the Senate."

Committee Recommendation No. 54, from the Committee on Governmental Institutions, recommending for adoption of Delegate Proposal No. 213-85, entitled: "To amend Section 3 of Article II of the Northern Marianas Constitution by adding a new 'subsection (d)' relating to Composition of the House of Representatives."

President H. Guerrero: We are now on Committee Recommendations. Chairman Guerrero?

Chairman DL. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. President. Your Committee on Finance and Other Matters would like to report to this Convention on Committee Recommendation No. 49 and Committee Recommendation No. 50 to be adopted by this Convention.

President H. Guerrero: The Chair accepts Committee Recommendation Nos. 49 and 50. Chairman Lizama?

Chairman Lizama: Thank you, Mr. President. Your Committee on Governmental Institutions would like to submit Committee Recommendation No. 52, Committee Recommendation No. 53, and Committee Recommendation No. 54.

President H. Guerrero: Thank you. The Chair accepts Committee Recommendation Nos. 52, 53, and 54. Chairman King?

Chairman King: Thank you, Mr. President. Your Committee on Personal Rights and Natural Resources would like to submit to the Convention Committee Recommendation No. 51.

President H. Guerrero: Thank you. The Chair accepts Committee Recommendation No. 51. Chairman Manglona?

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Chairman Manglona: Mr. President, your Committee on Local Government has not report. Thank you.

President H. Guerrero: Thank you.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERRAL OF PROPOSALS

Committee Recommendation No. 49: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND ARTICLE X, SECTION 4 TO ADD THE PROHIBITION AGAINST PUBLIC DEBT.", for First Reading.

Committee Recommendation No. 50: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTION 9(a) AND (b) OF ARTICLE III OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTION TO MANDATE A BALANCE BUDGET FOR THE CNMI GOVERNMENT IN EVERY FISCAL YEAR.", for First Reading.

Committee Recommendation No. 51: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND ARTICLE XI, SECTION 6(a) TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF TRUSTEES OF THE MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST FROM THREE TO FIVE.", for First Reading.

Committee Recommendation No. 52: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTION 13 OF ARTICLE II OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTION RELATING TO SESSIONS.", for First Reading.

Committee Recommendation No. 53: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE II OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTION TO ADD A NEW 'SUBSECTION (d)' RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE SENATE.", for First Reading.

Committee Recommendation No. 54: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE II OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTION BY ADDING A NEW 'SUBSECTION (d)' RELATING TO COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.", for First Reading.

President H. Guerrero: Introduction and First Reading, Chairman Guerrero?

Chairman DL. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. President. At this time, the Committee on Finance and Other Matters would like to introduce Committee Recommendation No. 49: "To amend Article X, Section 4, to add the prohibition against public debt."; and Committee Recommendation No. 50: "To amend Section 9(a) and (b) of Article III of the Northern Marianas Constitution to mandate a balanced budget for the CNMI Government in every fiscal year."

President H. Guerrero: Thank you, Chairman Guerrero. I call on Chairman Lizama.

Chairman Lizama: Mr. President, Governmental Institutions Committee's Recommendation 51 is a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article XI, Section 6(a), to provide for an increase in the number of trustees of the Marianas Public Land Trust from three to five. Committee Recommendation No. 52 is a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Section 13 of Article II of the Northern Marianas Constitution relating to sessions. Committee Recommendation No. 53 is a proposed constitutional amendment to

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amend Section 2 of Article II of the Northern Marianas Constitution to add a new "subsection (d)" relating to the composition of the Senate. And Committee Recommendation No. 54 is to amend Section 3 of Article II of the Northern Marianas Constitution by adding a new "subsection (d)" relating to composition of the House of Representatives.

Chairman H. Guerrero: Thank you.

SECOND AND FINAL READING

Committee Recommendation No. 10: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND ARTICLE II, SECTION 11 RELATIVE TO OTHER GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.", for Second and Final Reading.

Committee Recommendation No. 12: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ADD A NEW SUBSECTION TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 18 TO REQUIRE THAT THE SALARY OF THE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT FOR CAROLINIAN AFFAIRS NOT BE LESS THAN THAT OF AN EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT HEAD.", for Second and Final Reading.

Committee Recommendation No. 38: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTION 14(a) OF ARTICLE II REGARDING THE VOTE REQUIRED TO EXPEL A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE.", for Second and Final Reading.

President H. Guerrero: We are now on Second and Final Reading. Secretary Nabors, can you read Committee Recommendation No. 10?

Delegate King: Mr. President, what about Committee Recommendation No. 51?

President H. Guerrero: I believe Chairman Lizama read it.

Delegate King: Okay; thank you.

At this point, Secretary Nabors read Committee Recommendation No. 10, as follows:

"COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION NO. 10

"A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

"To amend Article II, Section 11 relative to other government employment of members of the legislature.

"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. Effective upon ratification, Section 11 of Article II is amended to read:

"Section 11. Other Government Employment. A member of the legislature may not serve in any other Commonwealth government position including other elective office or an independent board,

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agency, authority or commission established by this Constitution or by Commonwealth law. A person, having been a member of the legislature, may not serve in any elective or appointive Commonwealth government position created by statute during the term for which he was elected, for a period of one year following the expiration of the term during which the position was created."

President H. Guerrero: Floor Leader Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that we adopt on Second and Final Reading, Committee Recommendation No. 10.

Delegate Mafnas seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 10. Discussions?

Delegate Mafnas: I move for the previous question.

President H. Guerrero: If there's no discussion, roll call please.

Delegate Tenorio: Point of information.

President H. Guerrero: State your point.

Delegate Tenorio: Mr. President, on this Committee Recommendation No. 10, line 10, the last word "he", I wonder if this is appropriate to just have "he". What if the person is a she?

President H. Guerrero: Can we have the unanimous consent to put "he or she"?

Floor Leader Lizama: No objection, Mr. President.

Delegate Limes: No objection.

President H. Guerrero: If there is no objection, so be it. Roll call, please.

At this point, Secretary Nabors called the roll, and the motion to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 10 on Second and Final Reading was voted by a roll call vote, as follows:

YES: Delegates Vincent Calvo, David Cing, Herman Guerrero, Lorenzo DL. Guerrero, Alonzo Igisomar, David Igitol, Rita Inos, Esteven King, Luis Limes, Juan Lizama, Jesus Mafnas, James Mendiola, Paul Manglona, Aniceto Mundo, Felicidad Ogumoro, Maria Pangelinan, Karl Reyes, Joaquin Tenorio, Francisco Tomokane, and William Nabors. (21 votes)

ABSTAIN: Delegate Ignacio Villanueva. (1 vote)

ABSENT: Delegates Benusto Kaipat and Ramon Villagomez.

And the motion was carried.

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Secretary Nabors: Mr. President, there are 21 ayes, 1 abstention, and 2 absent.

President H. Guerrero: Therefore, there are 22 votes and it passed unanimously. It requires only 17 votes. It is three-fourths member. Since two are absent, therefore we only need 17 for passage of a bill. Therefore, it is unanimously passed. Secretary Nabors, can you read Committee Recommendation No. 12 please?

Secretary Nabors read Committee Recommendation No. 12, as follows:

"A PROPOSAL

"To amend Section 18 of Article III of the Northern Marianas Constitution.

"BE IT ADOPTED BY THE SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION:

"Section 1. Section 18 of Article III is hereby amended to add a new subsection (g) to read as follows:

"Section 18: Executive Assistant for Carolinian Affairs.

"g) The annual salary of the Executive Assistant for Carolinian Affairs shall be equal to the annual salary of each of the principal Department Director."

Chairman Lizama: Point of information, Mr. President.

President H. Guerrero: Yes, Floor Leader Lizama.

Floor Leader Lizama: Committee Recommendation No. 12 should have been read as follows: "Section (g): The annual salary of the Executive Assistant for Carolinian Affairs may not be less than the annual salary of a head of an executive department."

President H. Guerrero: That's correct. That is the adopted version by the Committee of the Whole. Discussions? Floor Leader Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that the Convention adopts Committee Recommendation No. 12 on Second and Final Reading.

Delegate Mafnas seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 12 on Second and Final Reading. Discussions? If there's no discussion, Secretary Nabors, can you take the roll call vote?

At this point, Secretary Nabors called the roll, and the motion to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 12 on Second and Final Reading was voted on by a roll call vote, as follows:

YES: Delegates Vincent Calvo, David Cing, Herman Guerrero, Lorenzo DL. Guerrero, Alonzo Igisomar, David Igitol, Rita Inos, Luis Limes, Juan Lizama, Jesus Mafnas, James Mendiola, Paul Manglona,

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Aniceto Mundo, Felicidad Ogumoro, Maria Pangelinan, Karl Reyes,
Joaquin Tenorio, Francisco Tomokane, William Torres, Ignacio
Villanueva, and William Nabors. (21 votes)

ABSTAIN: Delegate Esteven King. (1 vote)

ABSENT: Delegates Benusto Kaipat and Ramon Villagomez.

And the motion was carried.

Secretary Nabors: Mr. President, I have 21 affirmative votes, 1 absten-
tion, and 2 absent.

President H. Guerrero: Committee Recommendation No. 12 is unanimously
adopted. Secretary Nabors, can you read Committee Recommendation No. 38
please?

Secretary Nabors read Committee Recommendation No. 38, as follows:

"COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION NO. 38

"A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

"To amend Section 14(a) of Article II regarding the vote required to
expel a member of the legislature.

"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 14(a) of Article II is amended
to read:

"Section 14: Organization and Procedures.

"a) Each house of the legislature shall be the final judge
of the election and qualifications of its members and the legis-
lature may vest in the courts the jurisdiction to determine
contested election of members. Each house may compel the atten-
dance of absent members, discipline its members and, by the
affirmative vote of three-fourths of its members, expell a member
for commission of treason, a felony, breach of the peace, or
violation of the rules of that house."

President H. Guerrero: Yes, Floor Leader Lizama.

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that the Convention adopts
Committee Recommendation No. 38 on Second and Final Reading.

Delegate Mafnas seconded the motion.

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President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 38. Discussions? Floor Leader Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Yes, I apologize, Mr. President. I think we need to do some minor clearing on this committee recommendation, Mr. President. On the last line of the introductory clause, the words "to read" should be deleted. And on line 1, place the Roman numeral "L" in front of "Effective". On line 2, strike out....

Delegate Limes: Is it Roman numeral L or I?

Floor Leader Lizama: It's Roman numeral I, I'm sorry. On line 2, strike out in its entirety. On line 5, place an "s" at the end of the word "election". These are just to put the proposed constitutional amendment in proper form. I so move.

Delegate Nabors seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to make technical amendments to Committee Recommendation No. 38. Discussions? Yes, Delegate King.

Delegate King: Thank you, Mr. President. Since the proposed amendment on line 7, I believe, is covered by the Analysis of the Constitution, so I would like to move that we file this Recommendation No. 38 on Second and Final Reading.

President H. Guerrero: You are out of order; we are on the amendment. Confine yourself to the technical amendment that was passed out first.

Delegate King: Oh, I'm sorry. I apologize.

Delegate DL. Guerrero: I move for the previous question.

Delegate Mendiola seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt the amendment offered by Floor Leader Lizama was carried by voice vote.

President H. Guerrero: We are back to the main motion. Delegate King?

Delegate King: Mr. President, I believe that we are going to put this out for referendum this coming November. And since this is already covered under the Analysis of the Constitution, I would like to urge the delegates that we should vote this down and file it since it is already covered in the Analysis of the Constitution.

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that we end debate.

Delegate Nabors seconded, and the motion was carried by voice vote.

There being no further discussion, Secretary Nabors called the roll, and the motion to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 38 on Second and Final Reading was voted on by a roll call vote, as follows:

YES: Delegates Vincent Calvo, David Cing, Herman Guerrero, Lorenzo DL. Guerrero, Alonzo Igisomar, David Igitol, Rita Inos,

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Luis Limes, Juan Lizama, Jesus Mafnas, James Mendiola, Paul Manglona, William Nabors, Felicidad Ogumoro, Maria Pangelinan, Karl Reyes, Francisco Tomokane, and Ignacio Villanueva. (18 votes)

NO: Delegates Esteven King and Aniceto Mundo. (2 votes)

ABSTAIN: Delegates Joaquin Tenorio and William Torres. (2 votes)

ABSENT: Delegates Benusto Kaipat and Ramon Villagomez.

— And the motion was carried.

Secretary Nabors: Mr. President, I have 2 abstentions, 2 negative votes, and 20 affirmative votes.

Delegate Mafnas: That's impossible.

Secretary Nabors: Oh, pardon me. I have 2 absent, 2 abstentions, 2 negative votes, and 18 affirmative votes.

President H. Guerrero: Committee Recommendation No. 38 is adopted by 20 votes. Abstention goes to the prevailing side. There is no Introduction of Resolutions, no Unfinished business, and no Special Orders of the Day. We are now under General Orders of the Day.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND REFERRALS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

None

GENERAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

Committee Recommendation No. 14, from the Committee on Finance and Other Matters, recommending for adoption of Resolution No. 3-85, Committee Draft 1, entitled: "A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO REQUESTING THE COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE TO EXTEND THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FOR AN ADDITIONAL THIRTY DAY PERIOD.", for reconsideration by the Committee of the Whole.

Committee Recommendation No. 45: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE III OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTION RELATING TO QUALIFICATIONS OF THE GOVERNOR."

Committee Recommendation No. 46: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND ARTICLE III, SECTION 4 TO LIMIT THE GOVERNOR TO TWO TERMS IN OFFICE."

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Committee Recommendation No. 47: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTION 7 OF ARTICLE III OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTION RELATING TO SUCCESSION TO THE GOVERNORSHIP AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNORSHIP."

Committee Recommendation No. 48: "A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ADD A NEW SECTION TO ARTICLE III TO GUARANTEE THE INDEPENDENCE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS."

President H. Guerrero: Floor Leader Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that we resolve into a Committee of the Whole.

Secretary Nabors seconded the motion.

Floor Leader Lizama: If the delegates feel that it would not be necessary to resolve into a Committee of the Whole to deal with Committee Recommendation No. 14, I will withdraw that motion to resolve into that committee.

President H. Guerrero: It can be done. The Chair suggests that we will probably handle it.

Floor Leader Lizama: Okay, I withdraw my motion, Mr. President.

President H. Guerrero: Can we have a motion to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 14? Any motion?

Chairman DL. Guerrero: I so move, Mr. President.

Floor Leader Lizama seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 14. Delegate Nabors?

Delegate Nabors: Thank you, Mr. President. There was distributed a substituted version to update the information contained in the original resolution. The only change was on lines 3 to 5 to indicate the accurate number of introduced proposals. Thank you.

President H. Guerrero: Discussions?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, when this type of resolution was introduced the first time, I was one of those delegates that voted against it. Now I have given some thought about the need to get some additional extension. I have been thinking about the need for the Convention having an extension for an additional 10 days. Mr. President, I would like to urge all the delegates to quickly resolve this resolution so that we would be able to proceed with other business.

President H. Guerrero: Delegate Inos?

Delegate Inos: Mr. President, I think it's just a minor thing here that I want to point out on line 6. I wonder if there should be a word "is" after "since this" -- "Whereas, since this our Second Constitutional Convention"....

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President H. Guerrero: If there's no objection, we will just insert the word "is". Delegate Villanueva?

Delegate Villanueva: I just want to know whether these are calendar days or working days.

Delegate Nabors: Calendar. And may I, Mr. President?

President H. Guerrero: Yes, Delegate Nabors.

Delegate Nabors: It probably should read "not to exceed". If we finish early, we can go home.

President H. Guerrero: Are you making an amendment?

Delegate Nabors: Yes, Mr. President, on line 18 "for a period not to exceed 10 days".

Floor Leader Lizama: No objection.

President H. Guerrero: Yes, Delegate Reyes?

Delegate Reyes: Mr. President, if we are to make this proportional to the funding that was granted to the Convention which is, as I understand it, \$25,000, just to be exact is seven days. Oh, pardon me, it's seven and a half days so we have to ask for seven days.

Delegate Nabors: Is that a motion?

Delegate Reyes: The resolution is saying that the funding has to be proportional. If that's the case, then the proportional days to the funding is seven point five days, so I feel we should ask for seven days or one week.

Floor Leader Lizama: Yes; that's correct.

Delegate Reyes: I would like to put that into a motion.

Delegate Nabors seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: I just want to mention to Delegate Reyes that the House passed the additional appropriation for \$25,000. It's up to the Senate, but I don't know. The Senate amended it unfavorable, so I believe it's going to require for a conference. But that's for \$25,000.

Delegate Reyes: But that is the best guide that we have as of today, I think.

President H. Guerrero: Yes. Chairman Guerrero?

Chairman DL. Guerrero: Thank you, Mr. President. I hope that these seven days that we are going to seek from the Legislature's consent will not mean to say that we have to again relax in this Convention. If we can finish it only within the next two or three days in addition to the 30 days, I think we have to proceed with that course. I hope that the Chair, as much as possible, of course, try to put all those proposals as well as

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the committee recommendations in the proper agenda so that we can dispose of them accordingly.

President H. Guerrero: Your concern is taken by the Chair.

Delegate Nabors: Motion to end debate.

Delegate DL. Guerrero seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: Is that on the motion to amend, all these amendments of yours and Delegate Reyes, to change it to seven days?

Delegate Nabors: For a period not to exceed.

President H. Guerrero: For a period not to exceed seven days?

Delegate Nabors: Yes, sir.

The motion to end debate was carried by voice vote.

There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt the amendment offered by Delegates Nabors and Reyes was carried by voice vote.

President H. Guerrero: We are back to the main motion. Delegate Tenorio?

Delegate Tenorio: Thank you, Mr. President. While I recognize the concern of the Convention to continue the deliberations for another seven days, I must register also my concern that I entered this election with the understanding that I will work for 30 days, that I had submitted my administrative leave request just for that particular number of days. I also have other things that I feel very important that I have to do in my work and there are other things also that I have to take care of. And for this reason, I would like the Convention to note that my time is limited. This does not mean that I am opposing the Convention's intention. But if I have to be absent for some times, I would like the Convention to know ahead of time because of important reasons. Thank you.

President H. Guerrero: Thank you, Delegate Tenorio. Delegate Limes?

Delegate Limes: On line 9, Mr. President, if you read that line 9, you might.... Is that amended already?

Delegate DL. Guerrero: Yes.

Delegate Limes: Then I am out of order.

Delegate DL. Guerrero: I move for the previous question.

Delegate Nabors seconded the motion.

The motion to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 14 including Resolution No. 35-85, as amended, was carried by voice vote.

Delegate DL. Guerrero: Clarification, Mr. President.

President H. Guerrero: Yes, Delegate Guerrero.

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Delegate DL. Guerrero: We already disposed of the amendments by voting previously and we are supposed to vote on the committee recommendation as amended. And Dr. Tenorio came in, of course, by expressing his concern. So we are supposed to vote on the resolution or the committee recommendation, as amended.

President H. Guerrero: I think we just voted because I'm making reference to Committee Recommendation No. 14 and Resolution No. 3-85 and we did vote for them.

Delegate DL. Guerrero: Okay, I stand to be corrected.

President H. Guerrero: Therefore, Resolution No. 3-85 is adopted as amended. Delegate Limes?

Delegate Limes: (In Chamorro).

President H. Guerrero: Delegate Mafnas?

Delegate Mafnas: If the session is extended, automatically, the delegates are on administrative leave.

President H. Guerrero: By law, I think it's required.

Delegate Limes: Thank you.

President H. Guerrero: Delegate Pangelinan?

Delegate Pangelinan: Mr. President, I am not a government employee. I cannot promise that I will be able to come here after July 17 because I have other plans planned after July 17, but I will see what comes out of that plan.

President H. Guerrero: The Chair hopes that we don't have to use the entire seven days. I suppose that if it's just two days, I'll just note that we will adjourn by then. So I don't want anyone to get the impression that we are going to use up the entire seven days. And also that we are going to relax because we are going to move and try to get everything out. Yes, Delegate Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that we resolve into a Committee of the Whole right now.

Delegate Nabors seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to resolve into a Committee of the Whole. Discussions?

There being no discussion, the motion was carried by voice vote.

The Convention resolved into a Committee of the Whole at 9:08 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Convention reconvened its plenary session at 10:10 p.m.

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President H. Guerrero: The session is back to order. Delegate Nabors?

Delegate Nabors: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, your Committee of the Whole considered and adopted Committee Recommendation No. 45 and making only technical amendments on the last sentence of the title which strike out "to read" and inserted on line 1 the Roman numeral "I" before "Effective". Committee Recommendation No. 46 is, likewise, adopted with only the technical amendment by striking the words "to read" on the last sentence of the title and inserting Roman numeral "I" on line 1 before "Effective". Committee Recommendation No. 47 was, likewise, adopted with only a technical amendment by striking the words "to read" on the title and inserting Roman numeral "I" on line 1 before "Effective". Committee Recommendation No. 48 is, likewise, adopted with the amendments as follows: The words "to read" on the last sentence of the title was stricken and Roman numeral "I" was inserted on line 1 before the word "Effective". And on line 13, the word "shall" is stricken and the word "may" is inserted. Thank you, Mr. President.

President H. Guerrero: Floor Leader Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that the Committee of the Whole's report be adopted.

Delegate Nabors seconded the motion.

President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to adopt the Committee of the Whole's report on Committee Recommendation Nos. 45, 46, 47, and 48. Discussions?

There being no discussion, the motion was carried by voice vote.

President H. Guerrero: Yes, Delegate Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that we suspend item M of our Order of Business of today.

President H. Guerrero: Can you explain why?

Floor Leader Lizama: We were in Miscellaneous this afternoon. Do we need one again?

Delegate King: This is another Order of Business.

President H. Guerrero: That was day 26. This is for day 27. You are out of order. We are under Miscellaneous Business. Delegate King?

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Delegate King: I would like to appeal before the President about the environment of this Convention. I think the smell of this Chamber is against my right under Section 9, on personal rights, of Article I. Every morning when I came to this Chamber, it smells stink. No, this is honest. I think we are renting this place, so I hope it will smell in a very healthy way. So that's my comment in this Miscellaneous Business, Mr. President.

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President H. Guerrero: Your concern is noted and I'm sure the Chair will at least spend my own personal money to buy deodorizer. I can assure you also that my office smells every morning and I have one but I have already used up the can. Is there any other miscellaneous business? If none, we are on the announcements. Excuse me, Delegate Guerrero?

Delegate DL. Guerrero: Mr. President and members of this Convention, I would like this Convention to recognize the presence of one of the elected officials, Congressman Pete Nakatsukasa.

President H. Guerrero: That's right. He is the Floor Leader of the House of Representatives.

(Applause)

President H. Guerrero: You are welcome to the Convention. Announcements?

Delegate Nabors: Likewise, Mr. President, if I might, I would like to recognize the presence of Ms. Brenda Tenorio of our Washington Office and most recently of Saipan Office.

President H. Guerrero: I think we never claimed her.

Delegate Nabors: We would like to recognize her presence.

(Applause)

Delegate Mafnas: Mr. President, I would like to recognize everybody.

President H. Guerrero: That's fair, Delegate Mafnas.

(Applause)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President H. Guerrero: Delegate Reyes?

Delegate Reyes: Mr. President, I would like to announce that my request to provide copies of the legal opinion on Condominium have been passed out two days ago.

President H. Guerrero: Thank you. Chairman Manglona?

Chairman Manglona: Mr. President, your Committee on Local Government would be meeting tomorrow for two hours before the start of the session. Thank you.

President H. Guerrero: Thank you. Just for the information of the delegates....

Floor Leader Lizama: Point of information.

President H. Guerrero: State your point.

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Floor Leader Lizama: I would like to know when are you meeting tomorrow and I would like also to know when the Chair wants to meet tomorrow in session.

Chairman Manglona: We are meeting two hours before whatever time the session starts.

Chairman King: So we are going to start at 7:30.

Chairman Manglona: So 5:30 it is.

President H. Guerrero: Just a point of information. I understand that the Bishop decided to get back to one of the sermons tonight regarding my comments in reference that I was responding to Delegate Nabors' statement, but I still stand on my own statement. I am not retracting anything.

Delegate Villanueva: What was your statement?

President H. Guerrero: I believe it's regarding abortion. If you read today's paper, I'm sure you will know what I said. I would like to first find out or get the feelings of the committees before we schedule for plenary session or the Chair entertains for session tomorrow. Does the committees need to meet to finalize other things?

Floor Leader Lizama: Yes, Mr. President.

Chairman King: Yes.

President H. Guerrero: Okay.

✓ Floor Leader Lizama: I would like to meet with the members of the Governmental Institutions Committee tomorrow morning. Now, I don't know how long it is going to take us to wrap up all the matters that we are going to deal with tomorrow morning. I don't think that I can come here at 5:30 or 6:30 or 7:30. I prefer that I'll try to come here....

President H. Guerrero: Would you like to meet at 9:30 or ten o'clock for session?

Delegate Nabors: I recommend that we meet at one o'clock.

Floor Leader Lizama: I would prefer that.

Delegate Igitol: Ten o'clock.

Chairman King: I suggest that we are going to meet at 9:30 a.m.

Floor Leader Lizama: Let's meet at ten o'clock.

Delegate Nabors: Colleagues, the committees need to get their work completed, and we are going to be held up at the end unless we give them time now.

Chairman King: That's correct.

President H. Guerrero: The Chair also needs to go down and lobby.

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Chairman King: So one o'clock if that's the case.

President H. Guerrero: So what's the recommendation?

Floor Leader Lizama: Yes, I would like to go on with that suggestion. We will meet tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon so that the committees can meet tomorrow and wrap up all their works. I would like then to make an announcement at this time. I would like to meet with the members of the Governmental Institutions Committee tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. here.

President H. Guerrero: Chairman Manglona?

Chairman Manglona: At the assumption that we will be meeting in the afternoon, I would like to meet with the members of the Local Government Committee at nine o'clock tomorrow morning.

President H. Guerrero: Chairman Guerrero?

Chairman DL. Guerrero: I would like also to announce, Mr. President, that the members of your Committee on Finance and Other Matters will meet tomorrow at ten o'clock.

President H. Guerrero: Chairman King, are you meeting with your committee?

Chairman King: Yes, we are going to meet tomorrow in the morning but I don't know what time. I think any time in the morning.

President H. Guerrero: Would you be more specific for the benefit of the members?

Chairman King: I don't know. Maybe -- that depends; I have to talk to them.

President H. Guerrero: Will any member of this committee please decide for him?

Delegate Tenorio: Nine o'clock in the morning is fine with me.

Chairman King: I don't think so, Mr. President. It is our prerogative to meet tomorrow in the morning since there is no session, so I think we are going to talk to each other.

President H. Guerrero: Floor Leader Lizama?

Floor Leader Lizama: Mr. President, I move that we adjourn until tomorrow afternoon at one o'clock.

Delegate Nabors seconded the motion.

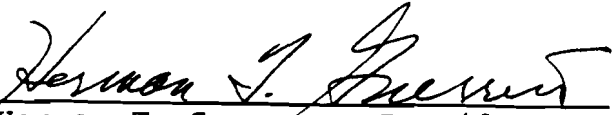
President H. Guerrero: It has been moved and seconded to adjourn until tomorrow afternoon at one o'clock.

There being no discussion, the motion was carried by voice vote.

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The Convention adjourned at 10:21 p.m. and to reconvene the next day,
Monday, July 15, 1985, at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVED:


Herman T. Guerrero, President
Northern Marianas Constitutional
Convention


William B. Nabors
Convention Secretary