

SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

SAIPAN, CM 96950

Telephone

6517/6572

Officers

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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

REPORT TO THE CONVENTION BY THE
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS

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Ramon G. Villagomez
Ignacio Villanueva

Subject: Committee Recommendation No. 52

Your Committee on Governmental Institutions recommends that the Convention delegates, meeting in Committee of the Whole, adopt the attached constitutional amendment with respect to specifying the maximum number of days the legislature is to meet in regular and other sessions.


Your Committee's recommended constitutional amendment will allow for a reduction in the general operational costs of the legislature, will provide members and committees more time to consider matters appropriate for legislation, and will improve the function of government. The recommended amendment will assure a more worthy stewardship of government funds and restrict opportunities to delay and postpone action on bills pending in either house.

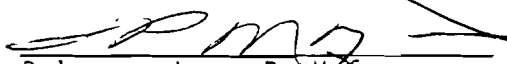
Your Committee did not agree with the phrase "continuous days" but believes the more appropriate phrase should be "consecutive days" and recommends including the latter to clarify the intent of the language set forth in the amendment.


Delegate Proposals: The delegate proposals referred to this Committee with respect to duration of session for the legislature are Delegate Proposal Nos. 46-85, 9-85, and 248-85. Your Committee's recommendation for adoption carries the full intent of these delegate proposals.

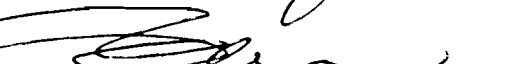
Therefore, your Committee strongly urges that all Convention delegates give their support to this recommended constitutional amendment.


Respectfully submitted,



Delegate Juan T. Lizama, Esq.
Chairman


Delegate Jesus P. Mafnas
Vice-Chairman


Delegate Felicidad T. Ogunoro
Member


Delegate Benusto R. Kaipat
Member


Delegate Vicente M. Calvo
Member


Delegate David M. Cing
Member


Delegate Alonzo Iglisomar
Member

A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

To amend Section 13 of Article II of the Northern Marianas Constitution relating to sessions.

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 13 of Article II of the Northern Marianas
2 Constitution is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "Section 13: Sessions. The legislature shall meet for organizational
4 purposes on the second Monday of January in the year following the regular
5 general election at which members of the legislature are elected and shall
6 be a continuous body for the two years between these organizational
7 meetings. Each house shall meet in regular sessions for no more than
8 ~~NINETY~~ ~~forty-five~~ sixty days before April 1 and 30 days consecutive days each year, and may be convened at other times
9 for not more than ten consecutive days upon request by its presiding officer
10 or by the governor. When meeting pursuant to a call by the governor, the
11 legislature shall consider only those subjects described in the call."

*of 30
July 30
April
of
each
calendar
year,*

*Adopted by the
Vote of the Whole as
Amended 7/15/85*