

SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

SAIPAN, CM 96950

Telephone

6517/6572

Officers

Herman T. Guerrero, President  
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

Members

Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero  
Alonzo Igisomar  
David L. Igitol  
Rita H. Inos  
Benusto R. Kaipat  
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: 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.

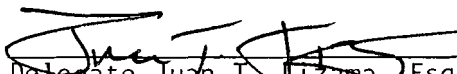
Your Committee's recommended constitutional amendment will allow for a reduction in the general operational costs of the legislature, will provide members and committees more time to consider matters appropriate for legislation, and will improve the function of government. The recommended amendment will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

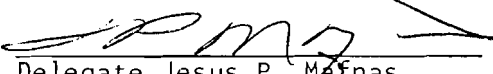
Your Committee did not agree with the phrase "continuous days" but believes the more appropriate phrase should be "consecutive days" and recommends including the latter to clarify the intent of the language set forth in the amendment.


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,

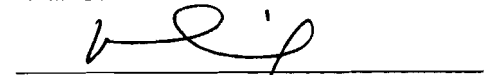
  
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Delegate Juan T. Lizama, Esq.  
Chairman

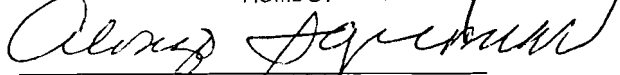
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate Jesus P. Mafnas  
Vice-Chairman

  
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Delegate Felicidad T. Ogumoro  
Member

  
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Delegate Benusto R. Kaipat  
Member

  
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Delegate Vicente M. Calvo  
Member

  
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Delegate David M. Cing  
Member

  
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Delegate Alonzo Igisomar  
Member

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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  
2 is amended to read:  
3 "Section 13: Sessions. The legislature shall meet  
4 for organizational purposes on the second Monday of  
5 January in the year following the regular general election  
6 at which members of the legislature are elected and shall  
7 be a continuous body for the two years between these  
8 organizational meetings. Each house shall meet in regular  
9 sessions for no more than ninety days each year, sixty days  
10 before April 1 and thirty days after July 31 of each  
11 calendar year, and may be convened at other times for not  
12 more than ten consecutive days upon request by its  
13 presiding officer or by the governor. When meeting  
14 pursuant to a call by the governor, the legislature shall  
15 consider only those subjects described in the call."

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PASSED SECOND AND FINAL READING ON JULY 16, 1985

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Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is amended  
as follows:

1 1. Effective upon ratification, Section 13 of Article II of the  
2 Northern Marianas Constitution is hereby amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 "Section 13: Sessions. The legislature shall meet for  
5 organizational purposes on the second Monday of January in the  
6 year following the regular general election at which members  
7 of the legislature are elected and shall be a continuous body  
8 for the two years between these organizational meetings.

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10 ninety days each year, sixty days before April 1 and thirty  
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21 Adopted, as amended, by the Committee of the Whole and by  
the Convention on July 15, 1985.

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2 Constitution is hereby amended to read as follows:

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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 forty-five 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."

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20 COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS  
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