

2nd CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
32nd Day - July 19, 1985
(Session) - Tape #1 (Side A)

MAFNAS: To be given this responsibility. Do we have locally appraisers other than Manny Sablan, perhaps, and there's another one, Frank Guerrero.

Mendiola.

MAFNAS: Mr., I'm not through yet, Mr. President. I am in support of increasing the 60 years. I believe that land appreciates, land does, does not depreciate and I believe that by extending it longer than 60, it will benefit the landowner. I have to take the different position that was presented to the committee and I, we passed last night the corporation provision to make it 100 percent Marianas descent. I believe that the equation should be higher than 60 and I will move for that, Mr. President

Second

MAFNAS: As soon as I have my floor amendment. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN: Let me recognize first a member of the committee. Delegate Torres.

TORRES: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The goal, as was stated in the committee report on corporation is not to suffocate or stifle economic development. We don't want that and you know it. We want economic development. We are for it. But you also have to take into account the vast majority. Perhaps we are the fortunate ones. We know we can make mature judgment. But consider the unfortunate ones who have yet to develop, who have yet to mature, who have yet to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Those are the people that we want to protect. Our goal is to enable these people to develop and to mature just as what was envisioned in the Covenant when this land alienation was restricted to 25 years after the termination of the Trusteeship. I believe that was the overriding concern of those people and of course, likewise, that is our concern also. We do not want to stop economic development, but at the same time we don't also want to see our own people be disenfranchised or disinherited in their own homeland. Now we talk about outside investors as if they are the ham of the Commonwealth. We have the Covenant money. 228 million. That's a lot of money to be pumped into the local economy. Let's not over-rely on outside investors. The Covenant funding will enable us to develop our infrastructure needs and at the same time enhance our economic development. Besides, how does the government get, I mean how much does the government get from these transient investors. How much do we get from the employment. More often than not, these outside investors would bring in its own labor force, so who are we kidding. Now the issue of appraisal again, I always believe that the fortunate ones should not be subsidized by the government. The

less fortunate ones should be assisted, just as what Micronesian Legal Services is doing. It is based on the principle of ability to pay. If we are unable to pay for a professional appraiser, then I think it is incumbent upon the government to help those less fortunate ones not to be fooled, not to be screwed by unscrupulous people and we have that, and we have it among ourselves.

MAFNAS: Point of information.

TORRES: If not MPLC, then let the government subsidize this and perhaps we can have other agencies to take care of it if we do not want MPLC to handle the professional, the professional appraising. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mafnas, can you state your point of information.

MAFNAS: Yes Mr. Chairman. Yesterday I condemned the framers of the Northern Marianas Constitution because they failed to address this issue. Here we are trying to envision and say that this will be, will be beneficial to our people if we limit it to 60 years. I think we are all going under the assumptions and probably the delegates to the fir - to the Third Constitutional Convention will condemn us too because we limit the ability of our people to transact accordingly. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: I'd like to call next Delegate King.

KING: Thank you Mr. President. I believe that the people, that our people here have a good security by holding the 100 percent according to the recommendation No. 40 to own the, to own the interest of the corporation and also we have security by condemning their real property from the outsiders and I'd like to ask the delegate not to condemn them again on their building. Give these people the privilege to decide on their building. We already, like I said, we already condemn them not to lease their land to the outsiders or investor for more than 60 years, so leave them and de - leave them to decide whether or not to lease the second floor to the, to the outsiders. We did enough to our people to condemn them so let's not condemn them entirely of their interest. So I'd like the, the delegates not to pass the proposed amendment, substitute proposed amendment.

PRESIDENT: I need to call on Delegate Villanueva.

VILLANUEVA: I have two questions to the committee, Mr. Chairman. As I read this substitute amendment, I think, are we talking about two things here, one is leasing the ground floor and also buying buying freehold on the second floor and above.

Yes.

VILLANUEVA: Okay. The first floor, I don't like the 60 years. Because, and this is, I follow up with a question. In the, in the Constitution it says 25 years. Do we have anything in this Convention that extends that 25 years to more than 25 years.

NABORS: No we cannot because it's in the Covenant.

VILLANUEVA: Limited to 25 years.

INOS: We can do it within our Constitution.

VILLANUEVA: Then

INOS: Point of information.

(Unclear)

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PRESIDENT: Are you finished Delegate Villanueva.

VILLANUEVA: No, no, no,

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VILLANUEVA: I like the point of information.

INOS: The Cov - are you going to

VILLANUEVA: Yeah, I like to listen to the point of information because I'm asking question.

PRESIDENT: Are you providing the point of information Delegate Inos.

INOS: Yes sir.

PRESIDENT: Please continue.

INOS: Okay, the point of information, I understood Delegate Villanueva to be saying that we cannot go beyond the 25 years term and why aren't we doing anything about extending that 25 years, right.

VILLANUEVA: I, I didn't say we cannot go beyond, I said is, is it correct that we can only, we're only authorized to restrict ownership of land to 25 years and according to the Covenant or the Constitution

INOS: Under the Covenant, section 805, the government of the Northern Mariana Islands must, until 25 years after the termination of the Trusteeship regulate the alienation of permanent and long-

term interest in the property so as to restrict the acquisition of such interest to persons of Northern Mariana Islands descent. It also goes further that the local government will define the operative terms of this section including such terms as what we're dealing with. Thus it will be entirely up to the government of the Northern Marianas and the people of the Northern Marianas to determine the precautions which they will take to prevent their land from being alienated.

VILLANUEVA: So, in other words, we can extend that 25 years.

INOS: Yes.

VILLANUEVA: Then I'm not worried about the 60 years on the ground floor. Okay, my concern now is on the second floor and above. I cannot see, or imagine, anybody who cannot own, who cannot have the right to use the second floor or above, spending \$100 or \$100 million when I can only use it for 60 years. If I spend \$100,000 to buy four floors above the first floor, and I am going to use it only for vacation and my children's vacation and my children's children's vacation, and maybe my four generation on, I don't, I don't think it's wise for me to spend that much money. I would rather go to Cuba or even to the mainland U.S. and buy something above the second floor. So, two things Mr. Chairman, I'd like to say that I'm in favor of increasing it to 99 years and also I'd like the committee to consider addressing the 25 years in the Covenant and also addressing the concern of Tan Maria because even if we put something like this, if the legislature, if Bill, Delegate Nabors get elected and forgot about this because he have a personal interest in real estate and he doesn't want the real estate broker to be regulated, then we we can address 10 years and the real, real estate broker can continue to, what do you call that, not rip-off, but they screwed Tan Maria. I think it's, the common usage of the language here is proper. I mean it means something else but I, I want to - ah 30 seconds,

NABORS: Mr. President, I'll yield to Dr. Kaipat and I wanna suggest

PRESIDENT: Wait, wait

VILLANUEVA: I'm not

PRESIDENT: Delegate Villanueva is not finished.

VILLANUEVA: Give me 30 seconds. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I hope when you look at this proposal that we're dealing with two things. The ground floor where our people are supposed to own it for the rest of their lives if we address the 25 years in the Covenant and also look at the interest and the concern that I expressed about investing \$100 million on the second floor and above on a condominium or a hotel or a skyscraper. Thank you Mr.

Chairman.

PRESIDENT: I need to recognize Delegate Nabors, are you clarifying things or.

NABORS: I'd like to, Mr. President, I'd like to let Dr., yield to Dr. Kaipat and I would then like to suggest that we defer further consideration perhaps later this evening or tomorrow morning so that we can deal with some of the concerns that have been raised. I met with the Attorney General briefly and he's willing to sit down and rework over this language concerning appraisal, so I just want that thought.

PRESIDENT: Before I recognize Delegate Kaipat, I need to recognize other people that have not spoken yet. First, I'd like to call on Delegate Limes.

LIMES: Just a point of information, Mr. President, I think all of us know of the inception of the Royal Taga. The first hotel in the Marianas, in the island of Saipan. The, probably in the early part of 60s is when the Royal Taga was open. If you take into consideration the time the Royal Taga was opened up to the time of the InterCon, it has not yet reached 25 years. Taking into consideration the proposal on the 60s I think that we'd be surprised, a lot of years for many transitional matters with regard to the condominium. Thank you.

REYES: Can I answer that Mr. President, just to answer.

PRESIDENT: Yes.

REYES: The concept here is how long the business is gonna stay alive. The concept I think is, if you have the existing 40 years now and you're dealing with an investor in that 40 years, he will only offer you say \$50,000, but if he's able to take advantage of the lease up to 99 years, he will offer you three times that much. So what we're saying here is that we're depriving our people with their land value because of the restriction on the leasehold. Should that leasehold be longer, then you can maximize the land value because the investors are not restricted and when it comes to investment, years in the multiples of ten is not really that long. So we're talking about the standard term leasehold and throughout the world is 99 and this is what is being used to maximize their, their, the value of their land, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Ogumoro.

OGUMORO: Thank you Mr. President. My only concern is, is there really a need for this amendment to our Constitution, the proposed amendment. Are we having problem now under section 3 of article 12. If so, perhaps when the committee or if the delegates are going to move for recommitment or deferment of this measure perhaps

we can work on an amendment that would include what the Committee on Local Government is proposing with the deletion of the second sentence. Thank you.

REYES: Mr. President, there's a problem now on this existing.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Kaipat.

KAIPAT: Thank you Mr. President. First, the, I would like to have - bring up only three points. First point will be the duration, the years. In our Constitution, it says 40 years, then during discussion in this Convention we talk about 55 years, 60 years, and now there's a 99 years coming. You know, I feel that the transaction of such land should be taken place where the old and new generation are still sitting together. Our life span on Saipan or the Commonwealth usually runs between 65 and 75 years. What I mean is how long do we live before we die. That's the life span for the population. 65 to 75 years and 60 years in between, I think is probably the best timing for the father and the son to sit down and talk about Hong Kong deal or Japanese deal to transact to the son so the son can take over. If we put it 99 years, he'll be talking to the bones. Only the bones, there's no, no lasas, so I think 60 years is a very reasonable time limit. As Delegate Torres mentioned also, that it'll be nice to extend as far as 100 years or 99 years, rather, we should be thinking on certain figures that will allow us to actually transact in a normal fashion with the outside investors.

VILLANUEVA: Point of information Mr. President.

KAIPAT: But to, yes

PRESIDENT: Do you yield Delegate Kaipat.

KAIPAT: You want me to continue.

MAFNAS: Allow Doc, you fellow Yapese.

PRESIDENT: Normally point of information does not, you know, will be recognized after the speaker's finished.

KAIPAT: Okay, No. 2 is this. This question I would like to, from you to delegate Reyes. In his statement he mentioned that an absolute ownership of air space, with unrestricted rights of disposition, I would like more clarification on this statement made by Delegate Reyes. Can you explain more. I feel empty, half-way empty not knowing what he really means when he say an absolute ownership of air space with unrestricted rights of disposition of air space.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Reyes, are you gonna respond.

REYES: Yes Mr. President. It simply means that when you open up the sale of air space above the first floor, it simply means that you are selling that freehold interest. They will hold, the buyer will hold that unrestricted throughout, without any tied down to leases.

TORRES: Point of order.

PRESIDENT: State your point.

TORRES: We are discussing, I believe the committee substitute which, which doesn't include the air space concept so I recommend that we stick to the substitute at this point.

PRESIDENT: That's correct. Please limit your discussion.

KAIPAT: My third question will be air space again.

PRESIDENT: So

KAIPAT: I feel it should be combine when we talk about this.

PRESIDENT: Unfortunately, we're talking about the amendment right now, so until such time that the air space issue comes up

TORRES: Move to end debate.

Second

KAIPAT: My third question is something to do with air space,

PRESIDENT: Can we

KAIPAT: I would like to cancel this now because we're not talking about the air space. It seems like talking about those. Thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: In view that we, we're going around for almost an hour and a half on this issue, in view also of the suggestion by Delegate Nabors of probably deferring it and come up with a better language, the Chair would like to recommend if the delegates, if there is no objection that we suspend this and take it up when the better language comes up.

MAFNAS: Move to defer Mr. President.

Second.

Second.

PRESIDENT: Those in favor of deferral please say aye.

AYE

PRESIDENT: Those who oppose say nay.

No.

PRESIDENT: This matter is deferred. We go on with the next one, 62, can you read that

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NABORS: Thank you, Committee Recommendation No. 62, a proposed constitutional amendment to add a new section 5(d) to article 2 of the Northern Marianas Constitution to safeguard against rampant alienation of Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands period. Be it adopted by the Second Constitutional Convention colon: Upon ratification pursuant to section 5 of article 18 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 colon: One period. Effective upon ratification comma, article 2 is amended to add a new section 5(d) to read colon: Quote. Section five colon: Permanent residency in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands period. D paren. The legislature shall enact no law which increases the class of non-alien except as to those persons defined in Covenant section 506(c) close paren period end quote.

MENDIOLA: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Yes Delegate Mendiola.

MENDIOLA: I move that Committee Recommendation No. 62 be adopted for first and second reading.

Second.

Second.

PRESIDENT: It has been moved and seconded to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 62. Discussion.

MAFNAS: Second and final.

NABORS: Move to end debate.

Second.

Delegate Calvo.

PRESIDENT: Wait. If there is no objection

MENDIOLA: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mendiola.

MENDIOLA: I think we have discussed this last night deeply and the explanation of the Attorney General is sufficient, move to end debate.

Second.

Information. We didn't have a meeting last night.

It was 6:00 in the evening so it was night.

PRESIDENT: If there's no discussion.

MANGLONA: Just a minor information here, should that be may, because of that no law.

MENDIOLA: I think the word shall is better.

NABORS: The word shall is appropriate here.

PRESIDENT: If there's no discussion.

Ready to vote.

Ready.

Ready to vote.

PRESIDENT: Going once, going twice, Delegate, Secretary Nabors can you take the roll call.

Delegate Calvo.

Yes sir.

Delegate Cing.

Yes for Tinian

Delegate Guerrero, Herman

Yes

Delegate Guerrero, Lorenzo

Yes

Delegate Igisomar

Delegate Igitol

Hunggan

Delegate Inos

Hunggan, yes

Delegate Kaipat

Ohwat

Delegate King

Hunggan

Delegate Limes

Huhu

Delegate Lizama

Delegate Mafnas

Yes

Delegate Mendiola

Yes sir

Delegate Manglona

Yes

Delegate Mundo

Yes

Nabors

Yes

Ogumoro, or Delegate Ogumoro

Yes

Delegate Pangelinan

Delegate Reyes

Yes

Delegate Tenorio

Yes

Delegate Tomokane

Yes

Delegate Torres

Hunggan

Delegate Villagomez

Delegate Villanueva

Alwet

NABORS: Mr. Delegate I have 20 affirmative votes, no negative votes, however, I have two absence - three absences.

PRESIDENT: Excuse me, Delegate Limes is not here to vote, therefore, he's absent. Either you vote or not voting.

He said everything yes.

PRESIDENT: There is no such thing. You're here to answer your roll call, there is no proxy.

NABORS: 19 affirmative votes,

Is that correct.

NABORS: No negative votes, no abstentions and five absences.

Sure.

PRESIDENT: Committee Recommendation 62 passed by unanimous vote on all members present. Can we take the next one. Committee Recommendation 27.

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NABORS: Thank you, Committee Recommendation 27. I would like to suggest that we defer 27 and 35 until Delegate Villagomez arrives for the reason that he and I have been discussing the possibility of withdrawal and I have not had an opportunity to find out his final decision.

TORRES: Point of information.

PRESIDENT: State your point Delegate Torres.

TORRES: If we're gonna wait for Delegate Villagomez he may never

make it because I believe that his brother-in-law will be arriving this morning or some time today who is deceased. He's deceased.

NABORS: Tomorrow.

KING: Point of information Mr. Chairman.

NABORS: Defer until tomorrow.

KING: Delegate Villagomez told me that he will not defer his action on this and he will vote in favor even though he's absent or he's here.

NABORS: Okay. Committee Recommendation 27,

MAFNAS: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Yes Delegate Mafnas.

MAFNAS: I ask the indulgence of the members to defer the recommendation 27 and 35 so I can, we can be given the opportunity to hear the arguments that will be presented by Delegate Villagomez. Delegate Villagomez will be here before we adjourn so we can balance our decision, I ask the indulgence of the members to defer 27 and 35.

Second.

PRESIDENT: If there's no objection, we skip Committee Recommendation No. 27 and 35. Can we go on with 24.

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NABORS: Thank you Mr. President. Committee Recommendation No. 24. A proposed constitutional amendment to add a new section to article 2 comma, to establish a ceiling of \$2,800,000 on the budget of the legislature period. Be it adopted by the Second Constitutional Convention colon: Upon ratification pursuant to section 5 of article 18 of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution and Public Law No. 4-30 comma, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is amended as follows colon: One period. Effective upon ratification comma, a new section is added to article 2 to read colon: Quote. Section Budget Ceiling period underlined. There shall be a ceiling on the budget of the legislature period. A paren. Appropriations comma, or obligations and expenditure comma, for the operation and activities of the legislature may not exceed \$2,800,000 in any fiscal year semi-colon; provided comma, that this amount may be adjusted for each fiscal year by a percentage which will be the same as the percentage change in the United States Department of Commerce Composite Price Index using the beginning of fiscal year 1986 as the base period. This ceiling on the legislative budget

shall be divided equally between the Senate and House of Representatives period. B paren. Obligation and expenditures for the operations and activities of the legislature for the period October 1 through the second Monday in January of a fiscal year in which there is a regular general election may not exceed \$700,000 or the spending authority otherwise available by law comma, whichever is less period. The ceiling shall apply to various offices and activities in the same proportions as the annual spending authority provided by law period. Two period. Transition Provision period underlined. Upon ratification comma, the ceiling imposed by this amendment shall apply to the legislature on a pro rata basis computed with respect to the number of days remaining in the period specified period close quote.

MENDIOLA: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Yes Delegate Mendiola.

MENDIOLA: I move that Committee Recommendation No. 24 for its adoption on first, I mean second and final reading.

Second.

PRESIDENT: It has been moved and seconded to adopt Committee Recommendation No. 24. Delegate Villanueva.

VILLANUEVA: Mr. President. I have a floor amendment to Committee Recommendation No. 24. It was passed out. On line 8, insert a period after the word year and delete line 8 after that to line 12.

Second.

VILLANUEVA: This proposed amendment is to delete the inflationary adjustment for the information of the

May I

Second

NABORS: On the motion. May I inquire of Delegate Villanueva why it is necessary to delete that sentence.

VILLANUEVA: Mr. President, we have passed two other measures regarding the legislature. One is to give them 90 days to meet and that has passed second reading, the other we have passed the Legislative Bureau, and there is another one coming up that would reduce the member of the, members of the legislature in both houses.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Nabors, probably, just point of information, the Covenant that was just recently signed, there's an understanding that the - that's the figure that they use as a basis

for the legislature spending and it might be in line with - with that thinking between the - our government and the government of the United States. Therefore it's best to delete the, that provision.

NABORS: Thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mafnas.

MAFNAS: Does the agreement, Mr. President, that was signed have the inflationary, the Composite Index provision.

PRESIDENT: I, I understand from the Lt. Governor that that provision has been deleted.

MAFNAS: Then it's most appropriate to delete it too from this recommendation. Mr. President, are we ready for discussion.

PRESIDENT: Yes we are on the amendment.

MAFNAS: Thank you. I would like to further reduce the \$2.8 million.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mafnas.

MAFNAS: On the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Can we vote, if, if there's no further discussion on the amendment,

MAFNAS: No discussion.

PRESIDENT: Can we vote on that one first. If there's no further discussion, those in favor of the amendment say aye.

AYE

PRESIDENT: Those oppose say nay. Motion carry. Now we're back to the main motion with the amended version. Delegate Mafnas, continue please.

MAFNAS: Thank you. Mr. President and fellow delegates. I feel that \$2.8 million is still very high. Since the beginning of the Convention we were flooded with the statement of deficits in the Commonwealth. Even the president attempted to secure additional funding for this Convention and he was partially successful. If the \$2 million, rather the \$2 million is successive in my opinion, one, we have passed other reforms with respect to the legislature. One, we reduced the number of session days, two, we passed the Legislative, Legislative Bureau proposal, or recommendation. I believe that the legislature will be able to function and will be able to deliver the required mandate in the Constitution if we

reduce this to \$2.5 million. I have copies of the listing of employees in the legislature with me. And I believe that by reducing it to \$2.5 it will force the legislature to hire only the necessary staff. Yesterday I, I consented or I agreed that the civil service should not cover agencies and instrumentalities. Under section 16 of article 3 of our Constitution and under Committee Recommendation 25, many of the positions of the legislature will be classified and will be comparable to those positions in the executive branch. For example, a planner researcher position, \$18,000; a legal secretary in the legislature is paid at \$18,000. Committee Researcher, \$17,000 per annum; Committee Assistant, \$16,000 per annum; System 6 supervisor, this is some sort of a typewriter, System 6 Supervisor \$16,000. I don't know how many System 6 do they have and how many employees are operating the System 6. If they have only one employee operating the System 6, they should not be a supervisor. The committee secretary \$13,000; plain secretary, another \$13,000. Researcher, \$12,000 per annum; community worker, \$11,000; xerox operator, \$10,000 per annum; account technician, \$10,000 per annum; janitor, \$9,000 per annum; page clerk, \$6,000 per annum; page clerk is the one similar to what we have here whose responsibility is just to pass out bills, resolutions and other documents that are received by the legislature. Fellow delegates, assistant maintenance, \$8,000 per annum; another janitorial position, \$8,000 per annum. Fellow delegates, I am very confident that a \$2.5 million is more than adequate for our legislature to operate and I feel that we can divert the \$300,000 for other essential public programs or services, such as the medical referral, such as additional teachers for the Department of Education, such as to fund the community college that we have. So I ask everyone and if there is no objection, Mr. Chairman, Mr. President, I would like, on line 7 to delete the word eight and insert the word five. I so move.

PRESIDENT: Is there objection on the floor.

INOS: I have a question.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mafnas, we cannot entertain that, there's objection and you need a unanimous consent without any written, any written

Recess

MAFNAS: I move for three minutes recess.

PRESIDENT: Three minutes recess.

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PRESIDENT: Back to order.

MAFNAS: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mafnas.

MAFNAS: I would like to retract everything I say on the \$2.8 since you allow me to have the floor so I wish the record to be corrected accordingly.

PRESIDENT: Please, go on.

MAFNAS: Mr. President, during the recess, I was convinced by the chairman and his influential committee members that the \$2.8 is very, very reasonable and I believe that the legislature will not necessarily spend, according to the chairman, \$2.8 if it does not see the need to spend and because I have confidence in our legislature, I support the \$2.8 and I move for the previous question.

Second.

TORRES: Mr. President, I've been waiting for you to recognize me so that I can ask some questions to Delegate Mafnas.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mafnas, would you yield.

MAFNAS: I withdraw my ques - rather my motion.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Torres.

TORRES: Thank you Delegate Mafnas, thank you Mr. President. I like his idea on limiting the budget, however, I have to ask Delegate Mafnas whether he made, and quote, extensive studies end quote on the budget ceiling. It seems like we're coming out with arbitrary figures here. \$2.5, \$2.1, \$2.0, \$2.8. Now, is there any logic behind these numbers.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Mafnas.

MAFNAS: Your question is addressed to me. Yes. I made an extensive research on the \$2.5. My problem is that I felt, or I refused to recognize the seven years provision so it's a problem that when I made the research I said they wouldn't need it, they would only need \$2.5 for the next seven years and I refused to give that allowance to myself so I, that's why I'm supporting \$2.8 because I'm giving myself now the seven years allowance.

TORRES: Okay, can I ask two more questions. Delegate Mafnas, you also proposed the Legislative Bureau. Now, do you think that \$2.8 is sufficient to cover all of those professional staff of the Bureau.

MAFNAS: Mr. Chairman, more than adequate.

TORRES: Do you think that \$2.8 is high in view of the fact that

we're gonna be reducing the composition of the legislature.

MAFNAS: Under the assumption that the people will perhaps decide that one way or the other, and under the assumption that we don't know the position or how the delegate, how the Convention is gonna react to Committee Recommendation 65. I believe that, and it's very unfortunate that we are now approving Committee Recommendation 24, that's why I'm supporting \$2.8 because I don't know how the commi - the Convention is gonna react on Committee Recommendation 65 reducing the numb - the composition in both houses of the legislature.

TORRES: Is \$3.0 acceptable.

MAFNAS: That would be too excessive.

PRESIDENT: Delegate Torres, for your information, I was explaining that under the Covenant negotiation, that's the figure that our special representative used in negotiating with the United States government, that they would not increase their budget in more than \$2, \$2.8 million.

TORRES: I do recognize that Mr. President, but you know, I have to question also the rationale behind \$2.8. We may have a different rationale from the Covenant negotiators so if I could be enlightened on the rationale of the Covenant negotiators, more the better.

NABORS: Motion to end debate.

Second.

PRESIDENT: It has been moved to end debate. Those in favor say aye.

AYE

PRESIDENT: Those oppose say nay. We're voting on Committee Recommendation No. 24 as amended, roll call Delegate Nabors.

NABORS: Delegate Calvo.


Yes

Delegate Cing.

Yes

Delegate Guerrero, Herman

Yes



Delegate Guerrero, Lorenzo

Aye

Delegate Igisomar

Delegate Igitol

Yes

Delegate Inos

Hunggan

Delegate Kaipat

Yeah

Delegate King

Hunggan

Delegate Limes

Delegate Lizama

Delegate Mafnas

Yes

Delegate Mendiola

Yes

Delegate Manglona

Yes

Delegate Mundo

Yes

Delegate Nabors

Yes

Delegate Ogumoro

Yes, yes

Delegate Pangelinan



Delegate Reyes

Yes

Delegate Tenorio

Yes

Delegate Tomokane

Yes

Delegate Torres

Yes

Delegate Villagomez

Delegate Villanueva

Huhu (End of side A)