



# Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention

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DELEGATE PROPOSAL NO. 376

DATE: June 9, 1995

It is proposed that a constitutional amendment be prepared that does the following:

Maintains the current local governments on Rota, Tinian and Aguiguan, Saipan, and the Northern Islands. A separate local government for the Northern Islands is important to the economic and social development of these islands.

Provides for true local government capable of providing essential services, as follows:

1. Repeals the provision that allows legislative delegations to enact local laws
2. Defines local government functions as all functions of government except public health, public safety, and functions delegated to autonomous agencies.
3. Provides that whatever subjects the Commonwealth government does not prohibit, the local governments have the right to deal with.
4. Permits Municipal Councils to enact local laws
5. Empowers local government to generate and appropriate revenues for local programs and services independent of the central government through one or more funding mechanisms.
  - Revenue sharing: The Commonwealth would be required to remit to the local government a percentage of the revenue generated within the senatorial district.
  - Earmarked funding: The Commonwealth government would be required to remit to local governments the revenues from all taxes except the income tax (including public land leases, user fees, excise taxes, BGR, and other related taxes)
  - Federal funding: The pass-through requirements with respect to federal funding would be applicable.

Submitted by: Herman T. Guerrero  
Delegate HERMAN T. GUERRERO

(Proposed by the the MAYOR OF THE  
NORTHERN ISLANDS, and submitted as a  
courtesy to put this proposal before the  
delegates.)

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLE THAT WOULD BE AMENDED: Art. VI, Sec. 3,  
6, 7, 8

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLES AFFECTED: Art. II, Sec. 1