

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SUMMARY OF ISSUES ON ARTICLE VI: LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Section 1: Local Government

1. Should local government be continued?

- . On Rota
- . On Tinian and Aguiguan
- . On Saipan
- . On the Northern Islands

Section 2: Election of Mayor

1. Should a residency qualification be imposed for the office of Mayor?

2. Should additional qualifications be required for the office of Mayor?

Section 3: Responsibilities and Duties of the Mayor

1. What powers should the Mayor have?

2. How should the Mayor's powers and the Governor's powers be defined?

3. Should the Mayor be required to make an annual report to the people?

4. Should there be a provision for an acting Mayor if the Mayor is absent or unavailable?

5. Should the Mayor have spending authority for funds appropriated by the Commonwealth Legislature for the senatorial district from which the Mayor was elected?

Section 4: Compensation

1. What provision should be made for compensation for the mayors and the municipal council members?

Section 5: Governor's Council

1. Should the Governor's Council (which is composed of the Mayors, and the Executive Assistant for Carolinian Affairs, and the Governor) be continued?
2. Should the membership be changed?

Section 6: Municipal Councils

1. Should the Municipal Councils be continued?
2. How many members should Municipal Councils have?
3. Should vacancies on the Municipal Council be filled by the next-highest vote-getter if that person is available?

Section 7: Powers, Meetings and Compensation of Municipal Councils

1. What powers should the Municipal Councils have?

Section 8: Agencies of Local Government

1. Should the Constitution limit local governments to the ones specified in the Constitution, or should the Constitution allow more municipalities to be formed in the future (for example, several municipalities on Rota instead of just one municipality)

Other issues

1. Should the delegations from the senatorial districts in the Commonwealth Legislature continue to have the power to enact local laws?
2. Should the provision for the executive power of the Commonwealth be changed to include officials other than the Governor?
3. Should a certain percentage of the Commonwealth's revenues be required to be allocated to each municipality?