

THIRD NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS

DAILY JOURNAL

ELEVENTH DAY

Thursday, June 15, 1995

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** The 11th day of the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention is called to order.

Please stand for a moment of silence.

(A moment of silence was had.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Thank you.

Convention Clerk, roll call, please.

(The Convention Clerk called the roll.

Delegate Camacho was absent.)

**CONVENTION CLERK:** Mr. President, we have 25 present and two absent.

(Delegate Taitano arrived after the roll call.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Thank you.

We have a quorum to conduct the business of the Convention.

At this time, I would like to call on the Floor Leader.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Mr. President, if there are no objections from the Delegates, I would like to move from item 4 of the order of business down to item 10 of today's order of

business.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** You are moving for unanimous consent to suspend the order of business so we can go to down to No. 10?

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** That's right.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Second?

(The motion was seconded.)

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Mr. President, I would like to suspend the rule and for the Delegates to resolve into the Committee of the Whole.

Second?

(The motion was seconded.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** It has been moved and seconded to suspend the rule and resolve into the Committee of the Whole.

It has been moved and seconded.

Discussion?

**DELEGATE LIFOIFOI:** Mr. President?

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Delegate Lifoifoi.

**DELEGATE LIFOIFOI:** At this time, I would like the Delegates, with all due respect to Delegate Camacho, whose mother passed away this morning, to stand up for a moment of silence and pray.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Can we entertain that motion before we do that, Delegate Lifoifoi?

**DELEGATE LIFOIFOI:** Yes.

**DELEGATE MANGLONA:** Point of information.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Yes.

**DELEGATE MANGLONA:** What is the purpose of the Committee of the Whole?

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** As previously suggested at the last session, we're going to present the resolution to the family of the late Vice Speaker, Jesus Mafnas.

Those in favor of the motion to suspend the rule and to resolve into the Committee of the Whole say "Aye."

(Everyone agreed.)

Opposed, say "Nay."

(None.)

(The motion was carried.)

Motion carried. We're now resolving into the Committee of the Whole.

At this time, I would like to call up Mrs. Susana Mafnas and the family so that we can present the Resolution. This is the Constitutional Convention Resolution No. 2.

I would like to ask that a volunteer read the Resolution before we present it.

Delegate Marian Aldan-Pierce.

**DELEGATE ALDAN-PIERCE:** I'll volunteer.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Can we call the family to come up here?

**DELEGATE ALDAN-PIERCE:** This is the Constitutional Convention Resolution No. 2, which was offered by all of

Delegates of the Constitutional Convention.

"A Constitutional Convention Resolution to mourn the late Representative Jesus P. Mafnas upon the occasion of his untimely demise and to express sympathy and condolences to his bereaved family.

"Whereas, the late Honorable Jesus Pangelinan Mafnas was born on June 5, 1942, on the island of Yap in the Western Caroline Islands to Juan Rios Mafnas (deceased) and to Victoria Pangelinan Concepcion, and was a devoted family man, married to Susana Tenorio Mafnas, whose union was blessed with four children, Blas, Celina, Rufo, and Jennifer; and

"Whereas, the late Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas received his early education on Saipan, his high school diploma from Father Duenas Memorial High School in Guam and attended the University of Guam and the University of Hawaii between 1961 and 1975; and

"Whereas, the late Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas began his long career of public service to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands as a teacher for the Marianas District Government from 1962 to 1965; he continued with

service in the Trust Territory Government in succeeding more responsible positions beginning as an Account Clerk in the Budget and Finance office of the Trust Territory Government in 1965; as the Assistant Economic Affairs Advisor for the Marianas District Government; as a Budget and Accounting Specialist with the Peace Corps in Micronesia; as a Management Intern and Assistant Finance Officer for the Trust Territory Department of Budget and Finance; as the Special Assistant to the Chief of Finance and Accounting Division of the Trust Territory Government; and, finally, as the Chief of Revenue for the Trust Territory Government from 1973 to 1976; and

"Whereas, the late Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas was active in shaping the evolving political environment of the new Commonwealth and was a founding member of the Republican Part; and

"Whereas, in 1979, the late Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas returned to public service as the Commonwealth's Personnel Officer, in which capacity he served from 1986 to 1990, and wherein he was instrumental in establishing the

civil service as an integral institution of the Commonwealth government; and

"Whereas, the late Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas served as a Delegate to the Second Constitutional Convention in 1985 wherein he contributed significantly to the revision of the Constitution by authoring numerous significant proposals and serving on essential committees; and

"Whereas, the late Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas sought and attained elective office first as a member of the Fifth District Legislature from 1976 to 1978; then as a member of the house of Representatives in the Eighth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature from 1992 to 1994; and, finally, as Vice Speaker of the Ninth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature from January, 1994, until his tragic and untimely death on May 21, 1995; and, therefore

"Be it resolved, by the Third Constitutional Convention, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the convention mourns the passing of one of the founding fathers of the Commonwealth, the late Honorable

Jesus P. Mafnas, and extends its deepest sympathy and profoundest condolences to his wife, children, and family; and

"Be it further resolved, that the President of the Convention shall certify and the Secretary of the Convention shall attest to the adoption of this resolution and thereafter transmit copies to Mrs. Susana T. Mafnas, to Blas Mafnas, Celina Mafnas Muna, Rufo Mafnas, and Jennifer Mafnas; to the Honorable Froilan C. Tenorio, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; to the Honorable Diego T. Benavente, Speaker of the House of Representatives; to the Honorable Juan S. Demapan, the President of the Senate; to the Honorable Jesus S. DeLeon Guerrero, Mayor of Saipan; to the Honorable Herman Manglona, Mayor of Tinian; to the Honorable Joseph S. Inos, Mayor of Rota; and, to the Honorable Joseph Ogumoro, Mayor of the Northern Islands.

"Adopted by the Third Constitutional Convention, June 7, 1995."

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** At this time, on behalf of the Delegates and the Convention, we would like to officially

present you with this Resolution, the Constitutional Convention Resolution No. 2, and our deepest sympathy and condolences to you and your family.

**SUSANA MAFNAS:** (Statements not in English.)

(Applause.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Can I ask everyone to please stand for a moment of silence in honor of the late Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas?

(A moment of silence was had.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Thank you.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Mr. President?

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** I recognize Delegate Villagomez.

**DELEGATE VILLAGOMEZ:** Mr. President, I understand the House of Representatives has a resolution pending.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Point of order, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** State your point.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Mr. President, I move that we go to the regular plenary session before we recognize any Delegates to speak.

At this time, Mr. President, I would like to move to resolve back to our plenary session.

(The motion was seconded.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** It has been moved to rise from the Committee of the Whole.

Discussion?



If there is no discussion, those in favor of the motion say "Aye."

(Everyone agreed.)

Opposed, say "Nay."

(None.)

Motion carried.

(The motion was carried.)

We're back to the plenary session.

Yes, Delegate Hocog.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** I would like to move for a short recess to allow the Delegates to meet with the family of the deceased.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Short recess. Five minutes.

(A recess was taken from 10:15 A.M. to 10:23 A.M.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** I hereby call this meeting back to session.

**DELEGATE TAITANO:** I wish to be recognized.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Yes, Delegate Taitano.

**DELEGATE TAITANO:** I wish to be recognized as being present. I had an umpire's meeting this morning.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Thank you, Delegate Taitano. We're glad you made it to the Convention. You have certain duties to the Convention.

Delegate Marian Aldan-Pierce.

**DELEGATE ALDAN-PIERCE:** I want to correct a statement that I made earlier. I guess without intending to, I eliminated

the offices of the Mayor of Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. I wish to correct my statement. It was to also to be sent to Joseph Ogumoro, Mayor of the Northern Islands.

Thank you.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** It's so noted.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Mr. President?

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Yes, Mr. Floor Leader.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** I would like to have Delegate Lifoifoi be recognized for his announcement.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Delegate Lifoifoi.

**DELEGATE LIFOIFOI:** Mr. President, I yield the floor to the Floor Leader.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Mr. Floor Leader?

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** I believe, Mr. President, earlier Delegate Lifoifoi would like to have the Delegates recognize the passing of Dr. Camacho's mother. And for that reason, Mr. President, I would like to move to suspend all of the order of business for today, and move to item No. 12 in the order of business to show our respect to one of our Delegates, Delegate Camacho.

(The motion was seconded.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** It has been moved and seconded to suspend the order of business for the day in respect to the mother of Delegate Carlos Camacho.

Discussion?

If there is no discussion, those in favor of the motion say "Aye."

(All agreed.)

Those opposed, say nay.

Motion carried.

(The motion was carried.)

At this time, I would like for all of you to please stand and have a moment of silence.

(A moment of silence was had.)

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Thank you.

Before we adjourn, or entertain a motion to adjourn, I would like to make an announcement.

The committee reports that are ready for consideration for today will be attached to today's Daily Journal. I believe the Committee on the Legislative Branch and Public Finance has three committee reports. They will be scheduled for discussion and first reading at the plenary session on Monday, June 19th. Those will be entertained as part of the order of business for Monday, as well as the reports of the other substantive committees.

Also, there is a notice that was put out by the Chairman of the Executive Branch and Local Government Committee advising the members that the meeting scheduled for 3:30 today -- Delegate Nogis?

**DELEGATE NOGIS:** Tomorrow at 3:30.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** It's rescheduled for tomorrow at 3:30 in the House Chamber.

This is also in respect for the death of Delegate Camacho's mother.

I recognize Delegate Aldan.

**DELEGATE VICENTE ALDAN:** Thank you, Mr. President.

I also would like to acknowledge my condolences to Dr. Camacho and his family.

Before we adjourn, I would like to get something off my chest.

(Statements not in English.)

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Mr. President, I would like to call a point of order at this time.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** State your point of order.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** I have a motion to adjourn. It has been seconded. I think that no more business can be entertained other than adjournment.

**DELEGATE VICENTE ALDAN:** Privilege.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** State your privilege, Delegate Aldan.

**DELEGATE VICENTE ALDAN:** (Statements not in English.)

I'm glad to get it off my chest. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** Thank you.

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** Ready for the question, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** What was the question?

**DELEGATE HOCOG:** It has been moved and seconded to adjourn.

**PRESIDENT GUERRERO:** It has been moved and seconded to adjourn until Monday at 10:00 A.M.

Those in favor of the motion say "Aye."

(All agreed.)

Opposed, say "Nay."

(None.)

(The motion was carried.)

Motion carried. The plenary session is adjourned until Monday at 10:00.

(The Convention adjourned at 10:31 A.M.)

Respectfully submitted,

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Convention Secretary