



# Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention<sup>1499-</sup>

Delegate Proposal No. 577

Date: July 10, 1995

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

Provides that acquisition of a permanent or long-term interest in real property by a person of Northern Mariana's descent shall be declared void ab initio if: (1) that person has obtained all or part of the purchase price from a person (or corporation) who is not of Northern Marianas descent; and (2) that person subsequently transfers any interest in the real property to the person (or corporation) who is not of Northern Marianas descent and who provided all or any part of the purchase price.

Provides that acquisition of a permanent or long-term interest in real property by a person of Northern Marianas descent shall be declared void ab initio if: (1) that person has any indirect support or assistance from a person (or corporation) who is not of Northern Marianas descent; and (2) that person subsequently transfers any interest in the real property to the person (or corporation) who is not of Northern Marianas descent and who provided indirect support or assistance.

[Note: the purpose of this amendment is to overturn the Ninth Circuit cases holding that when persons of Northern Marianas descent hold title to the land, and are the actual owners of the land, it makes no difference where the money for the purchase price.]

Submitted by: Carl S. Tasiacho  
Delegate CARL S. TASIACHO

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLES THAT WOULD BE AMENDED: Article III, Sec. 2

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLES THAT WOULD BE AFFECTED: None