

THIRD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

RESOLUTION NO. 8

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION RESOLUTION

To recognize the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki nuclear bombings and to mourn the hardship and loss of life suffered by all people affected by the Second World War..

1 WHEREAS, coming August 6 And August 9, 1995 will mark the fiftieth
2 anniversary of the devastation by atomic bombs of the cities of Hiroshima and
3 Nagasaki; and

4 WHEREAS, although these bombings signaled the end of World War II in
5 the Pacific region, they also caused the instantaneous death of over 78,000
6 people in the Hiroshima and of 40,000 people in Nagasaki and the virtual
7 destruction of both cities; and

8 WHEREAS, due to the suffering experienced by our own people during
9 World War II, and the historic connection between the island of Tinian as a
10 point of departure for those fateful flights, we are able to feel particular
11 empathy for the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and for all of the other
12 victims of the war;

13 WHEREAS, although there has not been, in the intervening fifty years,
14 a repetition of the use of nuclear weapons in war, the theory of nuclear
15 deterrence kept the world poised on the brink of nuclear devastation
16 throughout the Cold War Era; and

17 WHEREAS, when the Cold War ended in the late 1980's, the danger of a
18 catastrophic nuclear exchange between the superpowers decreased, the
19 nuclear arsenals accumulated by the superpowers and their allies continue to
20 pose a threat to world security; and

21 WHEREAS, the nuclear threat continues with the proliferation of
22 nuclear weapons and technology as additional political entities seek to possess
23 these ultimate weapons of destruction;

24 WHEREAS, indigenous peoples everywhere have been particularly
25 victimized by nuclear testing from Marshall Islanders who decades after

1 testing still cannot return to their native islands, to Australian Aborigines
2 who received little or no warning before British tests irradiated them in the
3 1950's, to Native American uranium miners who continue to suffer and die
4 from radiation induced cancers; and

5 WHEREAS, the recent announcement by the French government of
6 plans for renewed nuclear testing in the South Pacific once again directly
7 threatens the health and welfare of our region; and

8 WHEREAS, our own people of the Northern Marianas endured suffering
9 and death during World War II as the battleground of a war to whose politics
10 and genesis we were completely innocent bystanders; and

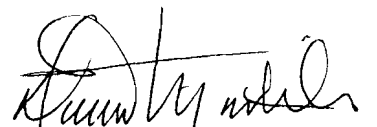
11 WHEREAS, the powerful and lasting lesson of that legacy is a deeply felt
12 dedication to world peace; and

13 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional
14 Convention, that on this fiftieth anniversary of the tragedy of Hiroshima and
15 Nagasaki, we remember, honor and mourn the victims of those bombings and
16 support international efforts now underway to halt nuclear testing; to contain
17 proliferation of nuclear weapons; to pursue complete nuclear disarmament;
18 and to promote the elimination of war as an institution; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Convention shall
20 certify and the Secretary of the Convention shall attest to the
21 adoption of this resolution and thereafter transmit copies to the Governor of
22 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; the Governor of the
23 Territory of Guam; the President of the United States; the Prime Minister of
24 Japan; the Mayor of Hiroshima; and the Mayor of Nagasaki.

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Date: 7/18/95

Introduced By: 
DAVID Q. MARATITA