REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AND PUBLIC FINANCE
ARTICLE VII: ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE AND HOLD OFFICE, SECOND READING

The Committee presents the following report to the delegates with respect to Article VII: Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office, on second reading.

<u>Delegate Proposals</u>. The Committee issued two reports with respect to this article. Report No. 2 is dated June 14, 1995 and Report No. 4 is dated July 6, 1995. No further proposals have been introduced with respect to this article.

Floor Discussion. The Committee of the Whole discussed Report No. 2 on June 19, 1995, and Report No. 4 on July 6, 1995. No changes to either report were suggested.

<u>Delegate Amendments.</u> The Committee received no Delegate Amendments with respect to this article.

<u>Committee Changes.</u> The Committee considered whether to add a transitional provision stating that Section 3 did not apply to incumbents, if any, whose felony convictions had become final prior to the effective date of this amendment. The Committee concluded that it should only disqualify them from a future office and that no transitional provision is required. The Committee recommends no further changes to this article.

<u>Summary</u>. The Committee recommends passage of the attached Article VII on second reading.

Respectfully submitted,

Delegate TOMAS B. ALDAN, Chair

Delegate JUAN S. TENORIO, Vice Chair

Delegate VICENTE S. ALDAN
Delegate MARIAN ALDAN-PIERCE
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## ARTICLE VII: ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE AND HOLD OFFICE

## Section 1: Qualifications of Voters.

A person is eligible to vote who, on the date of election, is eighteen years of age or older, is domiciled in the Commonwealth, is a resident of the Commonwealth and has resided in the Commonwealth for a period of time provided by law, is not serving a sentence for a felony, has not been found by a court to be of unsound mind, and is either a citizen or national of the United States. The legislature may require that persons eligible to vote to be citizens of the United States.

## Section 2: Prohibition of Literacy Requirement.

A person may not be denied the right to vote because that person is unable to read or write.

## Section 3: Felony Conviction.

Any person who has been convicted of a felony in the Commonwealth or in any area under the jurisdiction of the United States, which conviction has become final, shall be disqualified from seeking or holding any elective office or any appointed office that requires legislative confirmation under this Constitution.