



Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention

Delegate Amendment No. 35

Date: July 27, 1995

ARTICLE AND SECTION TO BE AMENDED: Article 12, Section 2

COMMITTEE ASSIGNED: Committee on Land and Personal Rights

It is proposed that the article passed on first reading be amended as follows:

Article 12

Section 2: Acquisition

The term acquisition used in Section 1 includes acquisition by sale, lease, gift, inheritance or other means except a transfer by inheritance to a child or grandchild or a person who was adopted before age sixteen, a transfer by inheritance of a life interest to a spouse who is not of Northern Marianas descent, and a transfer to a mortgagee by means of foreclosure if the mortgagee is a full service bank, federal agency or governmental entity of the Commonwealth and does not hold the permanent or long-term interest in real property for more than ten years after foreclosure.

Submitted by:


Delegate HERMAN T. GUERRERO

Notes: This amendment would permit children who were adopted up to age 16 to inherit family lands. Because the adopted children language has been taken out of Section 4, defining persons of Northern Marianas descent, adopted children do not become persons of Northern Marianas descent able to buy land on their own or to have homesteads. The age 16 requirement applies only to family lands and allows the families to include these adopted children among those who inherit land if they so desire.