

ATTN JUN PAN

Finally got a copy
of HB 9-408, SD2, HS1

re special election for
concom amendments.

Rec'd 8/15/95

NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

H. B. NO. 9-408, S.D.2, H.S.1

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 1995

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To provide for a special election to consider proposed amendments to the Constitution which may be submitted by the Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 Section 1. Title. This Act shall be known as the Special Constitutional
2 Amendment Election Act of 1995.

3 Section 2. Findings. The Legislature finds that the Pre-Convention
4 Committee of the Third Constitutional Convention has requested that the
5 Legislature provide for a special election to consider constitutional
6 amendments, instead of putting the amendments on the ballot of the general
7 election of November 1995.

8 There are two compelling reasons for holding a special election. First, it
9 appears that the Convention will not complete its work until August of 1995.
10 This would allow only three months for public education, discussion and
11 debate. These important issues should be given more time.

12 Second, if the amendments are placed on the general election ballot, it is
13 likely that the Constitutional issues will become part of the general election
14 campaign, and will be mixed with partisan politics.

15 For this reasons, the Legislature finds that the amendments should be
16 considered separately, in a special election to be held at least six months after
17 the end of the Convention.

18 Section 3. Special Election.

19 a) Authority. Pursuant to Article XVIII, Section 5(a) of the
20 Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the
21 Commonwealth Legislature hereby provides for a special election to
22 consider those amendments to the Constitution which may be proposed
23 by the Third Northern Marianas Islands Constitutional Convention.

HOUSE BILL NO. 9-408, S.D.2, H.S.1

1 b) Date of election. The special election shall be held on the first
2 Saturday following the date that is six months after the end of the 1995
3 General Election.

4 c) Scope of election. The election shall only consider those
5 Constitutional amendments proposed by the Third Constitutional
6 Convention.

7 Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application
8 of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by
9 a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application
10 of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is
11 held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

12 Section 5. Savings Clause. This Act and any repealer contained herein
13 shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract
14 or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order
15 adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any
16 proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of this
17 Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any
18 liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at the date this
19 Act becomes effective.

20 Section 6. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by
21 the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

DATE: Prefiled 05/05/95
 Introduced 05/08/95

Introduced by: /s/ _____
 Rep. Jesus T. Attao

/s/ _____
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider

/s/ _____
Rep. Oscar M. Babauta

Reviewed for legal sufficiency: /s/ Maya B. Kara