Dear Senator Xxx:

The Post Convention Committee is requesting the Senate's support on two measures: (1) House Joint Resolution 9-25 which was adopted by the House of Representatives on August 9, 1995; the joint resolution if adopted by the Senate would recall House Legislative Initiative 9-1 from the Board of Election; and (2) House Bill 9-55D1, HD2 which would move the date for the voting of amendments proposed by the Third Constitutional Convention to six months from the general election in November of this year.

As you know, the Third Constitutional Convention after public hearings and extensive committee meetings, has proposed a budgetary scheme for the Legislature which is much more fiscally conservative than the budget contained in H.L.I. 9-1. Because of the conflicting provisions between the convention's proposal and H.L.I. 9-1, we believe that the best interest of the general public would be served if the Legislature recalls H.L.I. 9-1. The recall is necessary to avert a constitutional crisis that would arise if both measures are presented to the general public concurrently.

Again, we appeal to the Senate to approve House Bill 9. SD1, HD2 that would set a later date for the voting of the constitutional amendments proposed by the convention. The Post Convention Committee feels that additional time is needed to conduct an adequate public education program on the proposed amendments by the Third Constitutional Convention. We also believe a separate date would give the people ample time at the polling booth to review the amendments and make an informed decision whether or not to approve the amendments.

We hope the Senate will favorably consider our request. If you have any question on our position, please call the Post Convention office at 235-0843 or [ax 235-0842].

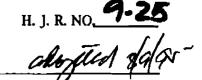
Sincerely,

HERMAN T. GUERRERO Chairman, Post Convention Committee

cc: Members, Post Convention Committee
All Delegates, Third Constitutional
Convention

NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 1995



A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

To recall House Legislative Initiative 9-1 from the Board of Elections and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, House Legislative Initiative 9-1 was passed by the House of Representatives on March 10, 1994 and by the Senate on June 7, 1994 and was duly thereafter transmitted to the Board of Elections to be placed on the ballot at the next regular general election which shall be held on November 4, 1995; and

WHEREAS, House Legislative Initiative 9-1 proposes substantive changes to Article II of the Commonwealth Constitution, specifically with regard to the budgets of the Legislature and Legislative Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Ninth Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Legislature passed and on January 6, 1995 the Governor signed into law Public Law 9-18 entitled the "Northern Marianas Third Constitutional Convention Enabling Act" which authorized the convening of the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention on June 5, 1995; and

WHEREAS, section 12 of Public Law 9-18 specifically vested the Constitutional Convention with the duty to "propose such amendments to the Constitution . . . as it believes to be in the best interests of the people of the Commonwealth;" and

WHEREAS, consistent with that mandate, the Third Constitutional Convention proposed far reaching amendments to Article II with respect to the structure of the Legislative Branch including substantive amendments to the budgets of the Legislature and the Legislative Bureau; and

WHEREAS, these amendments proposed by the Third Constitutional Convention and the amendments proposed by Legislative Initiative 9-1 embrace the same subject matter, the legislative budget, but propose very different approaches and limits to legislative spending; and

1 2

5

WHEREAS, the Legislature was accorded the opportunity to provide commentary and testimony with regard to the amendments proposed by the Convention and the Committee on Legislative Branch and Public Finance has duly considered the Legislature's views and incorporated the Legislature's

concerns into its decision making process; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 9-18, section 19(a) provides that the amendments to the Constitution proposed by the Convention shall be submitted to the voters for ratification at the November 1995 regular general election; and

WHEREAS, this timetable for ratification may be extended for six months to May 1996 if House Bill 9-408 becomes law; and

WHEREAS, regardless of when the amendments proposed by the Convention are submitted to the voters, there is the possibility that inconsistent proposals to Article II of the Constitution may be approved; and

WHEREAS, it is foreseeable that such an event would lead to administrative and fiscal confusion and generally undermine the stability and credibility of the political process; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that the elected representatives of the people of the Commonwealth, the members of the Legislature and the Convention delegates, speak with one voice; and

WHEREAS, it is within the power of the Legislature to recall their action from the Board of Elections so that the voters of the Commonwealth may make an unambiguous decision regarding the Legislature's budget by approving or disapproving the Convention's proposal; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninth Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Legislature, Senate concurring, that Legislative Initiative 9-1 is hereby recalled from the Board of Elections so that the voters of the Commonwealth may exercise an unambiguous choice regarding legislative matters, to enhance political stability, and to avoid inconsistent political and administrative results should both the Convention's proposal and the legislative initiative be approved by the voters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall certify and the House Clerk and the Senate Legislative Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this joint resolution and thereafter transmit certified copies to the Honorable

Page 2

- 1 Froilan C. Tenorio, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
- 2 Islands; to the Attorney General; and to the Chairman of the Board and the
- 3 Executive Director of the Board of Elections.

Date: 8-9-95

INT R D 0 9 AUG 1995

lw w

Introduced B



The House of Representatives NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMÔNWEALTH LEGISLATURE P.O. Box 586 Saipan, MP 96950

DAY, AMINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR/SPECIAL SESSION, 1995

VOTING RECORD

greconcider ON: 2 departed

REPRESENTATIVES	YES	NO	OTHER
1. Rep. Joaquin G. Adriano			
2. Rep. Jesus T. Attao			
3. Rep. Vicente T. Attao		1	
4. Rep. Oscar M. Babauta			-Cuf.
5. Rep. Ramon C. Dela Cruz		2	
6. Rep. Crispin Deleon Guerrero		3	
7. Rep. Vianney B. Hocog			the id
8. Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider		4	
9. Rep. Mametto U. Maratita			ly
10. Rep. Herman T. Palacios	2		
11. Rep. Maria T. (Malua) Peter	/ 6		
12. Rep. Pedro P. Reyes		5	
13. Rep. Benjamin A. Sablan		6	
14. Rep. Alvaro A. Santos	3		
15. Rep. Manuel A. Tenorio		7	
16. Rep. Ana S. Teregeyo			84
17. Rep. Stanley T. Torres	4		
18. (Rep.) Speaker Diego T. Benav	ente	8	
TOTAL	76	8	

DATE: SIGNAT

ATTESTED BY:

House Clerk