

# Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention -167-



Delegate Proposal No. 73

Date: March 22, 1995

It is proposed that a constitutional amendment be prepared that does the following:

Deletes the authority for a continuing resolution if the Legislature does not approve the budget in a timely manner.

Provides that if the Legislature does not enact a budget by October 1, the Governor's budget would go into effect as submitted, less any new tax revenues recommended but not enacted. If the Legislature later enacts a new budget, that would take precedence, but would have to account for any funds already obligated.

Alternatively, deletes the authority for a continuing resolution and provides for no budget at all in the event the Legislature does not act in a timely manner. This would shut down the government until the Legislature acted.

Submitted by: Herman T. Guerrero  
Delegate HERMAN T. GUERRERO

(described by the Governor in his speech on March 22, 1995, and submitted as a courtesy to put this proposal before the delegates)

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLE THAT WOULD BE AMENDED: Art. III, Sec. 9(a)

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLES THAT WOULD BE AFFECTED: Art. VI, Sec. 3(d); Art. III, Sec. 18(e); . Technically, the constitutional provisions for mandatory budget allocations and budget ceilings are not affected (e.g., Art. II, Sec. 16 (legislature budget ceiling); Art. II, Sec. 17 (legislative bureau budget ceiling); Art. III, Sec. 12 (required funding for Public Auditor); Art. III, Sec. 22 (required funding for Women's Affairs); Art. III, Sec. 23(e) (required funding for Indigenous Affairs); Art. XV, Sec. 1(e) (required funding for elementary and secondary education); Art. XV, Sec. 2(c) (required funding for the College)