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Public Education on "Open Government Act of 2007"

Question: Do you approve of the popular initiative entitled the "Open Government Act of 2007," to amend 1 CMC §9913 to read as follows: "§9913. Legislative Branch: Applicability. The Commonwealth Legislature, including all Commonwealth legislators and the Legislative Bureau, shall be subject to 1 CMC §9901, et seq. The respective rules and procedures of the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the Legislative Bureau shall be in compliance with this Chapter." Yes or No.

Proposed Purpose: "The people of the Commonwealth find and declare that they do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created. It is the intent of this Initiative Petition that the Commonwealth Legislature, including all Commonwealth legislators and the Legislative Bureau, shall be subject to Public Law 8-41, the Open Government Act, 1 CMC §§ 9901, et seq.

General Summary: If this initiative is approved, the Open Government Act outlined in Public Law 8-41 will apply to the legislature. The Open Government Act ensures that the general public remains informed on the issues that their elected officials bring in front of the legislature. All Legislative meetings are announced ahead of time, and final action is not taken unless the public has had a chance to comment on the measure.

- (1) The legislature would have to give seventy-two hours (3 days) notice of its agenda to the general public. This notice is to be published in the media in order to allow the general public to make comments or attend meetings where issues that are important to them will be discussed.
- (2) During legislative meetings all "persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the governing body of a public agency."
- (3) The legislature must afford all individuals an opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, in writing on any agenda item.
- (4) No ordinance, rule, resolution, law, regulation, etc. may be adopted except in a meeting open to the public.
- (5) Final action may only be taken on an ordinance, rule, resolution, law, regulation, etc. at a meeting that has been fixed by law or rule or by which notice has been given in accordance with the Open Government act (either 72-hour notice or if it is an emergency an emergency meeting can be called).
- (6) In times of emergency, a meeting may be called without needing to give 72 hours' notice. However, the legislature must "(a) state in writing the reasons for its finding that an emergency exists; (b) take a vote whereby two-thirds of all members to which the board is entitled agree that an emergency exists; (c) file an emergency agenda and the findings on emergency in official records of the governing bodies."
- (7) Lastly, this initiative entitles the public to inspect within ten days of a request all public records, unless specifically exempted within Section 19 of the law.

Pros:

1. By giving the public 72 hours' notice prior to a legislative meeting, the public will be more inclined and have more time to become informed on an issue and comment on the issue.
2. The general public's knowledge, understanding and participation in the legislative process will increase.
3. Accountability for elected officials will increase, as the public is made fully aware of all issues, discussions, and matters that are brought before the legislature.
4. The public will be able to request the minutes and documents from all legislative meetings unless it is specifically exempted under the act.
5. This initiative ensures that the legislature's actions are open, public and that no final action can be taken without first giving notice to the public.

Cons:

1. The 72-hour notification might not account for issues taking longer than one day to decide. The legislature will be unable to roll matters over to the next day if discussions become lengthy, instead the legislature will have to provide another 72-hour notice.
2. If the legislature mistakenly fails to give proper notice the act is null and void.
3. In times of emergency, it may be hard to call a meeting when two-thirds of the legislators are needed to state that the matter is an emergency and must be decided on immediately.
4. The necessity for giving notice to all legislative meetings, will decrease the likelihood that legislators will meet outside of committee members to discuss matters.
5. The legislators and their assistants' workload will increase.

Edukasion Pubpliku gi "Open Government Act of 2007"

Kuestion: Kão un apreba i suena na initiative entitled i "Open Government Act of 2007" para u amenda i 1 CMC §9913 ya u listo gi sigiente: "§9913. Rãmas Lehislatura: Applicability. I Lehislaturan Commonwealth, sãsaonao todou i lehislatodot siha yan i Lehislativa Bureau, debi na suheto para i 1 CMC §9901, et seq. I respective na areklamento yan manera siha gi Senate, i House of Representative siha, yan i Lehislativa Bureau debi na u matattiyi este na kapitulu." Hunggan pat Àhe'

Hãngai ni Mapropone: "I taotão i Commonwealth ha sodda' yan deklãra na ti ma'entrega i iyon-ñiha sovereignty para i ahente siha ni sumetbe siha. I taotão, ni dumiligãgadu i àturdat, ti siña ha nã'i i setbision pubpliku siha direcho para u disidi hãfa mãolek para i taotão siha para u matungo' yan hãfa ti mãolek para siha para u matungo'. I taotão siha ma'insiste na u fanma'entofma kosa ki siña u madesponi kontra i instrument siha ni mafa'tinas. I intension este na Initiative Petition na i Lehislaturan i Commonwealth, sãsaonao todou i Lehislatodot Commonwealth siha yan Lagislative Bureau, debi na suheto para i Lain Pubpliku 8-41, i Àkton Open Government, 1 CMC §§9901, et seq.

Sumãrian Henerãt: Yanggen este na initiative ma'apreba, i Àkton i Open Government ha obra gi Lain Pubpliku 8-41 para u aplika guatu gi lehislatura. I Àkton i Open Government ha na siguru na i pubpliku henerãt inemfotoma gi manera siha na i manma'ilihni na ofisiãles siha ni mana'fanhãlom gi lehislatura. Todou i huntan Legislative siha manma'anunsia kontiempo, ya ti machuchule' uttimo na aksion solo i pubpliku gumuaha chansã-ña para u nã'i opião gi minidi.

- (1) I lehislatura debi na u nã'i sitienta i dos(72) ora siha (3 diha siha) na notisian ayenda-ña i pubpliku henerãt. Este na notisia para u mapublika gi media ni anai siña masedi i pubpliku henerãt para u fa'tinas opião pat u ma'atende i hunta siha gi anai gaige i manimpottãnte na manera siha para siha ni para u madiskuti.
- (2) Gi durãnten i huntan i legislative siha todou "petsonãt siha manmapetmiti para u ma'atende maseha hãfa na hunta ni ginobiebietna i taotão i ahentan i pubpliku.
- (3) I lehislatura debi na u na siña todou indibiyuãt siha opottunidãt para u mana'hãlom i infotmasion, opião, pat testamoñon kinentra siha, gi tinige' maseha hãfa gi attikulon i ayenda.
- (4) Tãya' otdinãnsia, areklamento, resulasion, lai, regulasion, etc. siña ma'adãpta solo gi halom i hunta ni mababa para i pubpliku.
- (5) I uttimo na aksion anai siña machule' gi otdinãnsia, areklamento, resulasion, lai, regulasion, etc. gi hunta ni ma'arekla ginen i pat areklamento pat ginen i notisia ni manmanãn' i gi sigun i àkton i Open Government (maseha 72 ora siha na notisia pat yanggen gof nisisãrio i ensigidas na hunta nai siña ma'ãgang).
- (6) Gi tiempon emergency, i hunta siña ma'ãgang ti nisisãrio na un nã'i sitienta ora siha na notisia. Lão, i lehislatura debi na "(a) u sãngan gi tinige' i rason pot hãfa sinedda'ña na i emergency gagaige ha' siha; (b) u mabota guini two-thirds gi todou i miembro siha ni i kuetpo u entitled na gagaige ha' i emergency siha; (c) po'lo i emergency na ayenda yan i sinedda' siha gi ofisiãt na rekot siha gi governing bodies.
- (7) Pot uttimo, este na initiative entitles i pubpliku para u rikonosi gi halom i dies(10) diha siha gi ginãgão todou i rekot pubpliku siha, solo ma'espesifika na sahngi gi halom i Seksiona 19 gi lai.

Finãbot Siha:

1. Yanggen manã'i i pubpliku sitienta i dos ora siha na notisia antes d ii huntan i legislative, i pubpliku siempre mãs inklain yan guaha mãs ora para u fanma'infotma gi manera yan i opião i manera.
2. I tinige' pubpliku henerãt, kinemprende yan pattisipão gi halom i legislative process ni para ma'umenta.
3. I manmatufong i manma'ilihni na ofisiãles para u ma'umenta, komu i pubpliku magof tungo' na todou manera siha, dineskute siha, yan manera siha ni manmana'hãlom antes di lehislatura.
4. I pubpliku siempre manmamaisen minuto yan dokumento siha gineni huntan i legislative siha solo ma'espisifikãtmiente mana' sahngi gi papa' i àkto.
5. Este na initiative ha na siguru na i aksion lehislatura siha mababa, pubpliku yan tãya' uttimo na aksion siña machule' sin u manã'i i pubpliku notisia finene' na.

Kinentra Siha:

1. I sitienta i dos na ora na notifikasion siña ti numahong para i manera siha ni para u tinaka' para u madisidi. I lehislatura ti u siña para u maroll i manera siha asta i sigiente diha yanggen i umanãkko' i dineskute, alugãt di i lehislatura para u pribeniya ta'lo sitienta i dos na notisia.
2. Yanggen lumache i lehislatura para u nã'i propiu na notisia i aksion ti bumãle yan nulu.
3. Gi tiempon emergency, siña mappot manãgang hunta yanggen 2/3rds gi lehislatodot siha manisista ni para u masãngan na i manera emergency yan debi na u madisidi ensigidas.
4. I nisisidãt i manmanãn' in notisia gi todou legislative meetings, u menus na i lehislatodot siha u fanasuddã' gi hiyong i membron komiti siha ni para u madiskuti todou i manera siha.
5. I lehislatodot siha yan i ayudãnten-ñiha siha siempre mumeggai che' cho'-ñiha.

Ammatafal Toulap reel "Open Government Act of 2007"

Ayegh: U apreba mille popular initiative ye ital nge "Open Government Act of 2007" ebwe siweli 1 CMC § 9913 bwe ebwe kkausul: "9913. Legislative Branch: Applicability. Commonwealth Legislature, me bwal alongeer legislators me legislative Bureau, ebwe subject ngãli 1 CMC § 9901, et seq. Allãgh me aweewe kka Senate, House of representative me Legislative Bureau rebwe attabweey Chapter? Awer me ngãre Saabw.

Pomwol Bwulul: "Aramasal Commonwealth re schungi me dikklarai bwe rese yield-li yaar sovereignty ngãliir agencies kka re serve-liir. Aramas, llól bwãngiir reel delegating, nge ese ngãlleer public servants direchoor bwe rebwe disidili meeta e ghatch ngãliir aramas rebwe ghuleey me meeta ese ghatch rebwe ghuleey. Aramas re amamaaw rebwe aghuleey ngãliir bwelle igha iir rebwe lemaliir instrument kka re ayoor. Pomwol Initiative Petition yeel bwe Commonwealth Legislators me Legislative Bureau rebwe attabweey Public Law 8-41, Open Government Act, 1 CMC § 9901, et seq.

Aweewe: Ngãre Initiative yeel apreba, iwe Open Government ye e outline llól Public Law 8-41 ebwe apply ngãliir legislature. Open Government Act e asiguruw bwe aramas toulap re aghuleey ngãliir alongal issues kka layir elected officials re bwughilong llól legislature. Alongal meetingil legislative e arongowow mmwal igha rebwe ayoor, nge re ssóbw bwunguwuló ngãre toulap rese amweri mwo.

- (1) Legislature ebwe ayoor fisigh me ruwoow ora (élérãl) arongol yaar agenda ngãliir toulap. Arong kkaal ebwe akkatãwow llól media bwelle toulap rebwe mmwelil isisilong yaar mãngemãng me ngãre tabweey yélãgh kkaal bweigha issues kka rebwe aweewe wóol i pirisulu ngãliir rebwe aweewe.
- (2) Alongal yélãghil legislative nge "alongeer armas rebwe mweiting ngãliir rebwe tabweey alongal governing body mellól public agency."
- (3) Legislature alongeer aramas rebwe isisilong yaar mãngemãng, llól alongal agenda.
- (4) Esóor ordinances, allãgh, resolution, etc rebwe adoptaay solo e suusu ngãliir toulap meeting yeel.
- (5) Final action emmwel rebwe féerú ngãre schagh reel ordinance, allãgh, resolution, etc, llól yéelãgh ye aa bwung sãngi allãgh me ngãre aa mwir sãngi Open Government Act (sãngi ngãre 72 oral arong me ngãre emergency, emergency meeting emmwel rebwe faffay.
- (6) Llól ótol emergency, emmwel rebwe faffay meeting inawmo igha ese yoor orong llól fisiigh ora. Nge legislature ebwe "(a) ebwe ischitiw meeta bwulul ebwe yoor emergency reel; (b) membro rebwe bwotaali nge ebwe yoor two-thirds re bwunguw mellól board bwe eyoor emergency; (c) ebwe file emergency agenda me schungi yeer bwe eyoor emergency llól official record."
- (7) Arorosol, intiativa yeel nge e mweiti ngãliir toulap bwe rebwe amweri llól seigh rãl sãngi akkúlã alongal record kka yaal toulap ngãre schagh e mwir sãngi Section 19 mellól allãgh iwe e exempted.

Ghatchul:

1. Igha re ngãlleer toulap fisiigh me ruwoow ora reel arong mmwal yéelãghil legislative, toulap ebwe ghi yooroló ótol rebwe mataf reel issue me isisilong mãngemãng reel issue kkaal.
2. Ghuleeyer aramas toulap, mataf me toolong llól legislative process nge e lapeló.
3. Accountability ngãliir assamwool kka re bwotaar e lapeló, igha toulap rebwal amatafaar reel alongal issues, aweewe, me milikka re bwughilong ulimwal legislature.
4. Toulap emmwel rebwe tingór minutes me dokumento kka e toowow mereel yéelãghil legislative, nge ngãre schagh e exempt sãngi allãgh.
5. Initiative e asiguruw bwe yaal legislature mwóghut e suusu, toulap me esóor final action ngãre rese arongaar toulap.

Ngówal:

1. Arong llól fisiigh me ruwoow ora nge emmwel essóbw fil ngãli issues kka e luuló erãl igha ebwe aweewe.
2. Ngãre leghislature ese ghów yaal isisiwow arong yaar mwóghut (act) ebwe mãáló.
3. Llól ótol emergency emmwel rebwe weires ebwe yoor 2/3 legislators kka rebwe lo llól yéelãgh igha rebwe ayoor emergency nge rebwe ghutchuwuló.
4. Pirisul ebwe isisiwow arongol yéelãgh nge e aweiresi rebwe schu komite igha rebwe aweewe wóol meeta rebwe aweewe.
5. Yaar angaang legislators me assistants nge ebwe tumwógholó.