

Guam should imitate Canadian constitution

If we wish to write a constitution for Guam that has a chance of being ratified, we should imitate the Canadians. A constitution that is the Organic Act with but one addition that is to be ratified. The one addition might be rules for amending the constitution by a Guam-based process. Otherwise, a proposed constitution, as was the 1976 proposal, will be rejected by the ratification vote.

Opposition to an ambitious constitutional proposal, as in 1976, will come from people on opposite side of issues. In 1976, some voted against ratification of the proposal because it was too nationalistic, too liberal or too something else. These people's allies in voting against the proposal were those that found the proposed constitution insufficiently nationalistic, insufficiently liberal or insufficiently the same something else.

At this time, as in 1976, Guam lacks a consensus on governing principles upon which a constitution that is more ambitious than a slight modification of the Organic Act can be written and ratified.