THE PROVISIONAL BASIC LAW

OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.

The Republic of Lithuania shall be a sovereign democratic state expressing the general will and interests of the people of Lithuania.

Article 2.

The sovereign state power shall belong to the people of Lithuania. The people shall express their sovereign power through the exercise of legislative initiative, the election of deputies, votes on constitutional matters, and democratic referenda. No one shall have the right to restrict this power or to appropriate it.

The citizens of the Republic of Lithuania have the right to oppose all attempts to force-fullyundermine the sovereignty and integrity of the state of Lithuania. (Amended 28 February 1991)

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Judiciary shall exercise state power in Lithuania.

Article 3.

Basic questions of the state and public life of Lithuania shall be presented for public-discussion and shall be decided by means of referenda. (Amended 23 October 1990)

A referendum shall be called by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania on its own initiative or whenever it is called for by three hundred thousand (300,000) citizens of Lithuania eligible to vote.

The procedure for presenting the most important questions of state life for public discussion and for conducting referenda shall be established by law. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 4.

The territory of the Republic of Lithuania shall be integral and indivisible; its borders may be changed only on the basis of international agreement upon ratification by four-fifths vote of all deputies of the Supreme Council of Lithuania.

Article 5.

Parties, public organisations and public movements shall be created according to the procedure established by law and shall function within the limits of the Provisional Basic Law and other laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 6.

Political, professional, cooperative, public organisations and movements, associations for the creative arts and scientific associations, in accordance with the objectives and bylaws of their own programmes, shall participate in the management of state and public affairs and in the solving of political, economic and social issues.

Article 7.

The Lithuanian language shall be the state language of the Republic of Lithuania.

The Republic of Lithuania shall ensure the use of the Lithuanian language in the activities of state and public bodies, educational, cultural, scientific, industrial and other institutions, enterprises and organisations, as well as ensure the state's commitment to the comprehensive development and teaching of the Lithuanian language. Conditions shall be created for the use and development of the languages of ethnic minorities.

Article 8.

The defence of the country shall be regulated by law. War propaganda shall be prohibited in the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 9.

The state emblem of the Republic of Lithuania shall be the white "Vytis" (Knight) on a red background.

Article 10.

The state flag of the Republic of Lithuania shall be its national flag, which consists of three horizontal stripes: the upper stripe being yellow, the middle -- green, the bottom -- red. The ratio of the width and length of the flag is 1 to 2.

Article 11.

The national anthem of the Republic of Lithuania shall be "The National Song" by Vincas Kudirka.

Article 12.

The capital of the Republic of Lithuania shall be Vilnius, the ancient historical capital of Lithuania.

CHAPTER 2

LITHUANIAN CITIZENSHIP

Article 13.

The attributes of Lithuanian citizenship, conditions and procedures for receiving and losing it shall be defined by the Law on Lithuanian Citizenship.

As a $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right)$ rule, a citizen of Lithuania may not be concurrently a citizen of another state.

Lithuanian citizens abroad shall be defended and protected by the state of Lithuania.

Immigration to the Republic of Lithuania shall be regulated by law.

Article 14.

Citizens of Lithuania shall be equal before the law irrespective of race, sex, social origin, economic or material status, social views, religion or nationality.

The equality of Lithuanian citizens shall be protected in all spheres of economic, political, social and cultural life.

Article 15.

Women and men shall enjoy equal rights in Lithuania.

The realisation of these rights shall be ensured by the granting of equal rights to women, opportunities in obtaining education, professional training, employment, remuneration and promotion in work, participation in public, political and cultural activities, as well as by special safety and health measures in the work-place.

Motherhood and family shall be given special protection by the state. Laws shall provide for the protection of the rights of mothers and children, material and moral support, including paid holidays, privileges to pregnant women and to families and mothers with many children, benefits at the baby's birth, shorter working hours for working mothers with young children.

The work of mothers raising two or more children at home shall be recognised to be a socially significant activity and shall be remunerated according to law.

Article 16.

Citizens of Lithuania of different races and nationalities shall have equal rights. Any direct or indirect restriction of the rights of Lithuanian citizens, any direct or indirect establishment of privileges on the basis of social origin, public views, beliefs or nationality, the humiliation of a citizen on the basis of these characteristics, as well as all kinds of propaganda of racial or national exclusiveness, discord, or

disdain shall be prosecuted by law.

Article 17.

In the Republic of Lithuania foreign citizens and individuals without citizenship shall be guaranteed rights and freedoms provided by law, including the right of access to courts or other state bodies to defend their personal, property, family and other rights.

On the territory of Lithuania foreign citizens and persons without citizenship $\,$ must observe the Provisional Basic Law of Lithuania and other laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

CHAPTER 3

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, FREEDOMS AND DUTIES OF LITHUANIAN CITIZENS

Article 18.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to work paid on the basis of its amount and quality; remuneration shall not be less than the minimum set by the state; citizens shall also have the right to choose one's profession, vocation or work according to one's own inclination, abilities, professional training, education and in accordance with the requirements of society.

Article 19.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to rest and recreation. This right shall be ensured by a work week of no more than 40 hours, yearly paid holidays, paid free days every week, as well as the expansion of the network of educational and health institutions, development of mass sports, physical culture and tourism, creation of favorable conditions for rest and recreation

where one resides and other conditions for the rational use of one's free time. (Amended 11 September 1990)

The working hours and the number of free days for collective farmers shall be regulated by the collective farm.

Article 20.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to health care. This right shall be ensured by free qualified medical care administered by state health institutions, the expansion of the network of health care institutions, development and improvement of technology for ensuring safety and sanitary conditions in industry, wide implementation of preventive measures, special commitment to the health of the growing generation including prohibition of child labour not connected to one's education, promotion of research aimed at the prevention of disease, decreasing mortality, guaranteeing long and active life expectancy of citizens.

Every citizen of Lithuania shall have the right to a healthy and habitable environment.

Article 21.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to material maintenance in old age, in case of illness, partial or total loss of ability to work, as well as the loss of the family's main source of income. This right shall be ensured by social security for workers, state employees and collective farmers; temporary disability benefits; by old age, disability and pensions to cover loss of a family's main source of income, paid from the state and collective farm funds; by employment of partially disabled citizens; care of the elderly and invalids; and other forms of social security.

Article 22.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to housing.

This right shall be ensured by the development and preservation of the state and public housing, support for the cooperative and individual construction of residential housing, the fair and publicly-regulated distribution of housing granted through the construction programmes of well-appointed dwellings as well as through reasonable rents and housing rates. Citizens

of Lithuania must keep the housing provided them in good repair.

Article 23.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to education.

This right shall be ensured by free education of all kinds, implementation of universal secondary education, widely developed technical-vocational, specialised secondary and higher education; state grants and privileges for students; free secondary school textbooks; the possibility to receive instruction at school in one's native language; creation of conditions for self-education.

Article 24.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to avail themselves of cultural achievements.

This right shall be ensured by the fact that the assets of Lithuanian and world culture contained in the state and public funds are available to all; development of institutions of cultural education and their equal distribution on the territory of Lithuania; development of television and radio communications; development of printed and periodical press publications; free libraries; and the expansion of cultural exchanges with foreign countries.

Cultural depositories, institutions and funds, supported through state donations, fulfilling the interests and independent activities of the public, groups, and subgroups, shall be the nation's treasure. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 25.

Citizens of Lithuania shall be guaranteed the freedom of scientific, technological and artistic creativity. This shall be ensured by the development of research, invention, innovation, literature and art. The state shall create material conditions necessary for this and shall support creative unions.

The rights of authors, inventors and innovators shall be protected by the state.

Article 26.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to participate in managing state and public affairs, in the discussion and adoption of state laws and local decisions.

This right shall be ensured by the opportunity to elect and to be elected to Councils of People's Deputies and other elected state bodies, to take part in public discussions and voting, in the work of supervisory and state bodies, social organisations and independent public bodies, in the meetings of work collectives and meetings in the one's place of residence. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 27.

Every citizen of Lithuania shall have the right to make proposals to state bodies and social organisations to improve their work, or to criticize their shortcomings.

Citizens of Lithuania shall also have the right to petition, i.e. to demand that state executive bodies resolve their socially significant issues by legislative or other means.

Officials shall be required to consider the proposals, applications and petitions of citizens, to answer them and to take appropriate measures in the period of time established for such matters.

Persecution for criticism shall be prohibited. Persons undertaking such acts of persecution shall be subject to legal accountability.

Article 28.

Citizens of Lithuania shall be guaranteed the right to collect and disseminate information on all issues, with the exception of issues related to state secrets, as well as issues impairing the dignity and honour of the individual.

Article 29.

Citizens of Lithuania shall be guaranteed freedom of speech,

press, assembly, mass meetings and demonstrations.

The realisation of these political freedoms shall be guaranteed by providing the citizenry and their organizations access to public buildings, streets and squares, by providing for the broad dissemination of information, and by providing access to the press, television and radio. (Amended 23 October 1990)

These political freedoms may not be used to promote racial and national enmity and anti-humanitarian views.

Article 30.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to organise and join political parties and social organisations to realise their political, economic, ecological, scientific, cultural, religious and other interests if they do not conflict with existing laws.

Organisations shall be guaranteed conditions for the realisation of their stated objectives.

The procedure for creation, registration and dissolution of political parties and social organisations shall be defined by law.

Article 31.

In the Republic of Lithuania the freedom of thought, conscience, and religious faith or lack of religious faith, equal rights to profess convictions and views, singly or in groups, to express or disseminate them by peaceful means shall be guaranteed by law.

No one shall compel another person or himself be compelled to speak out, conduct himself or act against one's own conscience or convictions.

State institutions, educational and preparatory establishments shall be secular in nature. According to the procedure established by law these institutions and establishments shall maintain contact with the Church and other religious organisations in promoting morality.

The Church and other religious organisations shall have independent legal status and they shall be guaranteed the right to independently conduct their internal affairs.

Article 32.

The family shall be protected by the state.

Marriage shall be based on mutual consent of women and men: the spouses shall be absolutely equal in family relations.

Article 33.

Citizens of Lithuania shall be guaranteed inviolability and privacy.

Proceeding on the basis of the presumption of innocence, no one shall be prosecuted as a criminal unless a basis for such prosecution is provided by law and such prosecution is conducted according to established procedure. No one shall be subject to arrest except where there is a legal basis for such arrest and such basis is supported by the court or a procurator.

Every citizen shall be guaranteed access to legal counsel from the moment of his arrest.

Article 34.

Citizens of Lithuania shall be guaranteed the inviolability of their place of residence. No one shall have the right, without legal basis, to enter a place of residence against the will of the people residing there.

Article 35.

The privacy of citizens' private life, correspondence, telephone conversations and telegraph messages shall be protected by law.

Article 36.

It shall be the duty of all state bodies, social organisations and officials to respect the individual and to protect citizens' rights and freedoms.

Article 37.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to lodge complaints concerning the actions of officials and state and social organisations. Complaints must be processed according to procedures established by law and within the period of time established for such matters.

Complaints may be made, according to procedure established by law, concerning actions of officials that violate the law or exceed their powers and restrict the rights of citizens.

Citizens of Lithuania shall have the right to receive compensation for damages inflicted upon them by state and social organisations, as well as for damage inflicted by officials in discharging their official duties.

Article 38.

The fulfillment of a citizen's rights and freedoms shall be inseparable from the fulfillment of his duties.

A citizen of Lithuania must observe the Provisional Basic Law of Lithuania and other laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 39.

A citizen of Lithuania must protect the interests of the state of Lithuania and defend it.

Military service in the army of the Republic of Lithuania shall be an honourable duty of all citizens of Lithuania.

Article 40.

It shall be the duty of every citizen of Lithuania to respect the dignity and honour of other persons.

Article 41.

Citizens of Lithuania shall be responsible for the education of their children and their preparation for socially beneficial employment. Children must care for their parents and support them.

Article 42.

Citizens of Lithuania shall protect, preserve and contribute to a habitable environment.

Article 43.

It shall be the duty and obligation of citizens of Lithuania to seek to preserve historical monuments and other cultural assets.

CHAPTER 4

THE ECONOMY

Article 44.

The economy of Lithuania shall be based on the property of the Republic of Lithuania, which shall consist of the private property of its citizens, the property of groups of citizens, and state property.

Ownership relations shall be regulated by laws of Lithuania and shall be based on agreements between appropriate parties.

Conditions for the existence of relations of property belonging to international organisations, to citizens and groups (collectives) of citizens of other countries, on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, shall be defined by laws of Lithuania and interstate agreements.

The Republic of Lithuania shall guarantee to all holders of property the possibility of independent management of objects which belong to them according to the law on property, as well as the use and disposal of such property according to the laws of Lithuania. To realise their rights, property owners shall have the legal right to hire other individuals.

Uniform rights for the defence of one's property rights shall be established for all owners of property.

The Republic of Lithuania shall defend the rights of property owners in other countries.

Article 45.

The land, its mineral resources, inland and territorial waters, forests, flora and fauna, and other natural resources shall be the national wealth of Lithuania and the exclusive property of the Republic of Lithuania. Mineral resources shall be the exclusive property of the state of Lithuania. Other property belonging exclusively to the Republic of Lithuania may be owned by citizens of Lithuania and their groups (collectives).

The Republic of Lithuania shall have the exclusive right to the air space over its territory, its continental shelf and the economic zone in the Baltic Sea.

Article 46.

Property of the Republic of Lithuania that is state property may, with or without compensation, become private property of citizens or their groups according to procedures established by law.

In exceptional cases, when it is necessary to safeguard the interests of Lithuania, the property of citizens, groups of citizens, as well as other states, their citizens or groups of citizens may be nationalized, with compensation, through the passage of a special law.

CHAPTER 5

THE BUDGET

Article 47.

The budgetary system of the Republic of Lithuania shall be composed of separate independent state and local budgets.

The state budget of Lithuania shall consist of that part of the national revenue which is allocated for education, science, health care and social benefits, economic development and its infrastructure, the support of state power and executive bodies, and national expenditures connected with defence. Financial resources to meet the needs of local administrative bodies shall also be allocated through the state budget.

Article 48.

The draft budget of the Republic of Lithuania shall be prepared by the Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania on the basis of current and planned state projects and existing laws of the Republic of Lithuania, and shall be presented to the Supreme Council for approval. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 49.

The budget of the Republic of Lithuania shall be debated, approved and amended by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania on the basis of a report of the Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania and the conclusions of standing commissions.

During debate, the deputies of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania may propose increases in the draft budget, provided they are able to point to sources through which such expenditure will be reimbursed. (Amended 23 October 1990)

The general figures of the approved budget shall be made $\operatorname{public}\nolimits.$

Article 50.

The implementation of the State Budget of the Republic of Lithuania shall be organised by the Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 51.

Accounting of the expenditures of the Lithuanian State Budget shall be prepared by the Executive Branch to be later considered and approved by the Supreme Council. The general figures pertaining to the expenditures in the Budget shall be made public. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 52.

Every local government shall have its own separate budget. It shall have funds to finance social, economic and other local programmes and to support local government offices.

Article 53.

The revenues and expenditures of the Budget of the Republic of Lithuania shall be allocated among the constituent parts of the budget system according to the Law on Budgeting and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

CHAPTER 6

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE

Article 54.

The state shall give financial aid to all students, the disabled and citizens who are temporary unemployed.

Article 55.

Ethnic minorities comprising a significant proportion of the citizenry shall have the right to independently manage the affairs of their ethnic culture, education, charity and mutual

assistance. The state shall provide them with financial support. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 56.

The Republic of Lithuania shall provide for the health of its citizens and shall develop systems of social security.

Article 57.

The national educational system of the Republic of Lithuania shall be adapted to the historical and cultural traditions of the country and its economic trends. The educational system shall provide the population with professional training and general education that is necessary for the education of conscientious and socially committed citizens.

Possibilities shall be created for citizens of other nationalities residing in Lithuania to have preschool educational institutions, in which their children shall be taught in their native language, as well as training their teachers in their native language, to develop their national culture, to learn the Lithuanian language, and to study Lithuanian culture and history.

The organisation of the educational system shall be defined in the Law on Education of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 58.

The state shall be committed to the development of science and national culture, the enhancement of spiritual values, the preservation of the country's cultural heritage - historical, architectural, artistic and other cultural monuments - and to use them widely to elevate morality and the aesthetic education of people and to develop culture.

Professional and folk art of all types shall be encouraged in Lithuania.

Article 59.

The Republic of Lithuania shall care for the national, cultural and educational needs of Lithuanians residing abroad.

CHAPTER 7

THE SYSTEM OF THE COUNCILS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES
AND THE PRINCIPLES GUIDING THEIR ACTIVITY

Article 60.

Councils of People's Deputies shall be comprised of the

Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, regional, municipal, township and rural district councils of people's deputies, and form a unified system of the representative state power bodies of Lithuania.

Within their own territory, councils of people's deputies shall be lawfully empowered to execute the will of the people, acting on the basis of democracy and in accordance with the law.

Article 61.

The term of office for the councils shall be five years.

The date of the elections of the deputies to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania and to the local councils

shall be announced no later than three months prior to the expiration of their term of office. (Amended 11 September 1990)

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania may surrender its powers before the expiration of its term of office. This decision must be adopted by a majority vote of two-thirds of the total number of the deputies. In this case, preterm elections shall be announced, and the Supreme Council shall discharge its functions of state government until the new Supreme Council is elected. (Amended 11 September 1990)

Article 62.

Questions of supreme state and local importance shall be considered and resolved at the sessions of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania and local councils of people's deputies.

Councils of people's deputies may form standing commissions, they shall also form executive and other bodies accountable to them. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Officials elected or appointed by councils of people's deputies may not remain in office for more than two consecutive terms. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Any official may be dismissed from his post before his term of office expires if he does not properly fulfill his duties.

Article 63.

On their respective territories councils of people's deputies, directly and through their institutions, shall concern themselves with state, economic, social, and cultural affairs, as well as make decisions and exercise control over their implementation.

Article 64.

The activity of councils of people's deputies shall be based on collective, free, and businesslike discussion and resolution of all questions, on openness, on regular accounts of the executive bodies to the councils and the people, and on the broad involvement of the citizenry in their work.

In their activity councils of people's deputies and their instutitions shall take public opinion into consideration, bring before the citizens the most important state and local matters for their consideration, and inform the public regularly about their work and decisions.

CHAPTER 8

THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Article 65.

Lithuanian citizens shall be elected deputies to all Councils of Deputies on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Article 66.

Elections of deputies shall be universal: upon reaching the age of 18 all citizens of Lithuania shall be eligible to take part in these elections.

A citizen of Lithuania shall be eligible to be elected a deputy of a Council of people's deputies upon reaching the age of

18, and may be elected deputy of the Supreme Council upon

reaching the age of 21.

A deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania may not be concurrently a deputy of any other Council.

Members of the Executive Branch and the executive bodies formed by Local Councils of People's Deputies as well as the heads of ministries, state committees and agencies, judges, procurators, state arbiters and other officials may not, at the same time, be deputies of the council that elects, appoints or confirms them.

Article 67.

Elections of deputies in electoral districts shall be equal: every voter shall have one vote and voters shall participate in elections on an equal basis.

Article 68.

Elections of deputies shall be direct: deputies shall be elected directly by citizens.

Article 69.

Voting in elections shall be individual and secret; control over the decision how to exercise one's vote shall be prohibited.

All voters shall be guaranteed the same voting conditions.

Article 70.

Political parties, social organisations, social movements and groups of voters shall have the right to nominate candidates for the post of deputy at their place of employment or residence.

The number of nominees for the post of deputy shall not be restricted. Every participant in a pre-electoral meeting shall have the right to nominate and consider the candidacy of any citizen of Lithuania, including his own.

Any number of the candidates may be entered on the ballot.

Expenditures for the preparation and organisation of the elections of deputies shall be paid for by the state.

Article 71.

Preparation for the election of deputies shall be open and $\operatorname{public}\nolimits.$

Elections shall be organised by electoral committees formed from the representatives of political parties, social organisations, social movements, work collectives and meetings at places of residence.

Citizens of Lithuania, work collectives, political parties, social organisations and social movements shall be guaranteed the opportunity to freely and fully consider the political, professional and personal characteristics of the candidates nominated to the post of deputy, as well as the right to lobby for or against a candidate in meetings, in the press, on television and radio.

The procedure for organising the election of deputies shall be defined by the laws of Lithuania.

Complaints concerning violations of the election law shall be reviewed by electoral committees and the courts of Lithuania according to the procedure established by law.

Article 72.

Electoral councils of peoples deputies shall review the mandates given them by their electorate, taking them into account when drawing up the budget and preparing decisions on other issues; they shall organise the implementation of these mandates and shall inform the citizenry concerning their implementation.

CHAPTER 9

DEPUTIES

Article 73. Deputies shall be the authorised representatives of the people in the Councils of People's Deputies.

By participating in the activity of the Councils, deputies shall solve questions pertaining to the state, economic, social and cultural work, shall organise the implementation of the decisions of the Council, shall exercise control over the

functioning of state organs, enterprises, institutions and organisations.

In his or her activities, a deputy shall be guided by the interests of the state, shall take into consideration the needs of the people of his or her constituency, shall seek to effect the implementation of his or her constituents' mandate.

Article 74.

With the consent of the Supreme Council, a deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania may exercise powers and retain primary employment. For work at the Supreme Council a deputy shall receive a remuneration established by law.

As a rule, a deputy of a Local Council of People's Deputies shall exercise his or her duties without interrupting his or her work at an enterprise or office.

During periods when the Local Councils of People's Deputies are in session, as well as at the times when a deputy must exercise his or her duties as provided by law, the deputy shall be relieved from work at an enterprise or an office; the expenses connected with activities as a deputy, as well as a compensation for wages shall be covered from the revenues of the local budget.

Article 75.

A deputy shall have the right to submit an inquiry to the appropriate state organs and officials who shall make a reply to the inquiry at a session of the Supreme Council or Local Council of People's Deputies.

A deputy shall have the right to approach all state and public bodies, enterprises, offices and organisations on issues pertaining to his or her activities as a deputy, to obtain the necessary information from them and to attend discussions on the issues which have been raised. Heads of the appropriate state and public bodies, enterprises, institutions and organisations shall without delay receive the deputy and consider proposals within the time frame established by law.

Article 76.

A deputy shall be guaranteed conditions necessary for discharging his or her rights and duties effectively and without interference.

The deputy's right of immunity, as well as other guarantees relating to the deputy's activities, shall be established by law.

Article 77.

A deputy shall give an account of his or her activities as well as those of the Council to constituents, collectives, political parties, public organisations and movements which nominated the candidate to the post of deputy.

A deputy who has not justified the trust of his or constituents may be recalled at any time by a decision of the majority of voters according to the procedure established by law.

When a deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania is appointed or elected to the state bodies formed by the Supreme Council, the powers of the deputy shall be limited as provided for by law for the period the deputy holds the said office. (Amended 17 March 1990)

A deputy of the local council of people's deputies who gives consent and is appointed or elected to the state bodies formed by the same council, forfeits the powers of a deputy, and new elections are held in the vacant electoral district. (Amended 17 March 1990)

CHAPTER 10

THE SUPREME COUNCIL
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

Article 78.

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall be the highest body of state power in the Republic of Lithuania. The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall have the following powers:

1) to adopt the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania and amend it;

2) to call for elections for deputies throughout the Republic of Lithuania and to confirm the composition of the Electoral Commission of the Republic; (Amended 23 October 1990)

- 3) to approve drafts of the basic programmes of economic and social development of the Republic of Lithuania; to approve the state budget of Lithuania; to exercise control over the implementation of the programmes and of the budget; to approve the reports on their implementation; and, when necessary, to introduce changes in the budget;
- 4) to regulate property relations of in the Republic by legislative means; to organise the management of the economy, the social and cultural sphere, questions relating to the budgetary-financial system, remuneration for work, pricing and taxes, employ resources so as to preserve nature and environment, as well as to organise the citizenry's Constitutional rights, freedoms and duties, and other relations; (Amended 23 October 1990)
 - 5) to interpret the laws of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 6) to form state bodies accountable to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania; to establish the procedure for creating supreme and local bodies of state power of the Republic of Lithuania and the conduct of their activities; (Amended 29 March 1990)
- 7) to establish the systems of the procuracy, the Courts and other judicial bodies of the Republic of Lithuania, and to establish their powers and the procedure for conduct of their activities through legislative means;
- 8) to elect the President of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 9) to elect Vice Presidents and the Secretary of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 10) to appoint the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania and other members of the Executive Branch, to make changes within the Executive Branch, and, on the recommendation
- of the Executive Branch, to establish and dissolve the Ministries of the Republic of Lithuania; (Amended 11 September 1990)
- 11) to elect the Supreme Court of Lithuania and judges of regional and city courts, to appoint the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania and his Deputies, to appoint chief officers of state bodies accountable to the Supreme Council; to approve the councils of the Procuracy of the Republic of Lithuania as well as councils of other state bodies accountable to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania; (Amended 27 July 1990)
- 12) to hold regular hearings, to receive reports by institutions established and elected by the Supreme Council, with the exception of the Supreme Court of Lithuania, as well as reports by officials appointed by the Supreme Council; when necessary, to issue nonconfidence votes by secret ballot regarding the Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania and other institutions formed by the Supreme Council or regarding any of their members, with the exception of the Supreme Court of Lithuania; (Amended 23 October 1990)
- 13) to establish appropriate measures to guarantee state security and public order; to consider, when necessary, issues concerning ethnic and inter-ethnic relations;
- 14) to reapportion the administrative-territorial structure of the Republic of Lithuania and to establish the procedure for resolving these matters; (Amended 23 October 1990)
- 15) to change the names of administrative-territorial units and to change their status; to resolve other matters relating to the administrative-territorial structure; (Amended 23 October 1990)
- 16) to consider matters relating to the foreign policy of the Republic of Lithuania; to establish the basic principles of foreign policy of the Republic of Lithuania; (Amended 23 October 1990)
- 17) to ratify and renounce international treaties of the Republic of Lithuania;
 - 18) to establish state awards of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 19) to adopt a decision to hold referenda on its own initiative or on the demand of at least three hundred thousand (300,000) citizens of the Republic of Lithuania; (Amendment 23 October 1990)
 - 20) to issue acts of amnesty;
- 21) to repeal directives and decrees of the Executive Branch, as well as decisions of regional councils and municipal councils of the Republic if they conflict with existing legislation; (Amended 23 October 1990)
 - 22) to resolve other significant issues of state.

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall adopt the laws and resolutions of the Republic of Lithuania.

Laws of the Republic of Lithuania may also be adopted by referendum. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 79.

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall be composed of 141 deputies elected in voting districts having an equal number of voters.

The Supreme Council, on receiving the report of its Mandates Committee, shall affirm the powers of the deputies. In the event of a violation of the election law in any of the voting districts which has a decisive effect upon the returns of the election, the election of a deputy in this voting district shall be considered invalid.

Article 80.

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall meet on an annual basis for its regular spring and autumn sessions. The spring session shall open on March 10 and close on June 30; the autumn session shall open on September 10 and end on December 23. The Supreme Council may on its own decision extend the period of the session. (Amended 11 September 1990)

Special sessions shall be called by the Presidium of the Supreme Council either on its initiative or at the request of no less than one-third of the Supreme Council deputies.

A session of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall consist of the sittings of the Supreme Council, as well as of the sittings of the standing committees which shall be held in the period between them. The session shall open and close at the sittings of the Supreme Council.

The sittings of the Supreme Council shall be presided over by the President of the Supreme Council or his Deputy. On the instruction of the President of the Supreme Council, the sittings of the Supreme Council may be presided over by the Assistant to the Presiding Chairman of Plenary Sittings or his deputies elected by the Supreme Council. (Amended 29 March 1990)

The first session of the newly-elected Supreme Council shall be convened upon the expiration of the term of office of the previous Supreme Council, providing no less than two-thirds of the total number of the deputies have been elected. (Amended 11 September 1990)

The first sitting of the Supreme Council following the election shall be opened by the Chairman of the Electoral Commissions, and thereafter, presided over by the President of the Supreme Council or his Deputy.

A session of the Supreme Council shall be valid if it is attended by no less than two-thirds of all the deputies of the Supreme Council.

Article 81.

The right of legislative initiative at the Supreme Council shall reside with the deputies of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, the Supreme Council Presidium, the President of the Supreme Council, the standing committees of the Supreme Council, the Executive Branch, the Supreme Court, and the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 23 October 1990; 27 July 1990)

The right of legislative initiative shall also reside with national institutions of political parties and social public organisations.

Article 82.

Draft laws and other issues submitted to the Supreme Council for consideration shall be given a preliminary review at its sittings; thereafter they shall be reviewed in more depth by one or more of the several committees of the Supreme Council.

Discussion of these draft laws and other matters shall continue at the sittings of the Supreme Council after hearing the conclusions and recommendations of the corresponding committees.

Laws, decisions or any other acts of the Republic of Lithuania shall be adopted by a majority of the deputies present and voting at the session of the Supreme Council.

Draft laws and other major issues of state and public life in the Republic may be, upon the decision of the Supreme Council, submitted for public discussion. (Amended 11 September 1990)

Article 83.

Laws of the Republic of Lithuania, resolutions and other acts of the Supreme Council shall be published after they are signed by the President of the Supreme Council.

Article 84.

The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall be a body accountable to the Supreme Council, guaranteeing the organisation of work for the Supreme Council and performing other powers within the limits of the Provisional Basic Law of Lithuania and other laws.

The Presidium of the Supreme Council shall consist of the following: the President of the Supreme Council, Vice Presidents of the Supreme Council, the Secretary of the Supreme Council, and chairmen of the standing committees of the Supreme Council.

The Supreme Council may decide to include other members to the Presidium who shall be chosen from among the other deputies of the Supreme Council.

The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall be chaired by the President of the Supreme Council, or in his absence, by his Deputy. (Amended 29 March 1990)

Article 85.

The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall:

- 1) call the first session of the new Supreme Council; (Amended 11 September 1990)
 - 2) organise preparations for Supreme Council sessions;
- 3) coordinate the activities of the standing committees of the Supreme Council;
- 4) help, as necessary, the deputies of the Supreme Council to carry out their powers;
- 5) solve problems of rendering procedural assistance to Local Councils of People's Deputies;
- $\,$ 6) assist $\,$ in organising and conducting referenda and public discussions of draft laws of the $\,$

Republic of Lithuania and other major concerns of state and public life of the Republic; $\ensuremath{\mathbf{\hat{}}}$

(Amended 23 October 1990)

7) grant citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania; decide on the issues of loss of citizenship of

Lithuania and the granting of asylum;

- 8) grant awards and confer honorary titles of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 9) grant pardon to persons who have been sentenced by courts of Lithuania;

9a) submit candidates for the Supreme Court and its court assessors to the Supreme Council; (Amended 23 October 1990)

- 10) appoint and recall Lithuanian diplomatic representatives in foreign countries and at international organisations;
- 11) accept the letters of credence and recall of the diplomatic representatives of foreign countries;
- - 12) carry out other instructions of the Supreme Council.

The Presidium $\,$ of the Supreme Council shall issue nonbinding decrees and adopt resolutions.

Upon the expiration of the term of the Supreme Council, the Presidium of the Supreme Council shall retain its powers until the newly elected Supreme Council convenes for its first session and forms a new Presidium.

Article 86.

The President of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall be the highest official representative of the Republic of Lithuania and shall represent the Republic in international relations.

The President of the Presidium of the Supreme Council shall be elected by the Supreme Council from among the deputies of the Supreme Council by secret ballot for a term of five years and for no longer than two terms in succession. The President may be recalled by secret ballot of the Supreme Council.

The President of the Supreme Council shall be accountable to

the Supreme Council.

Article 87.

The President of the Supreme Council shall:

- 1) preside over the preparation of questions which are to be discussed by the Supreme Council; sign the laws of the Republic of Lithuania and other acts passed by the Supreme Council and the Presidium of the Supreme Council;
- 2) present to the Supreme Council reports on the situation of the Republic and on important questions of domestic and foreign policy of Lithuania;
- 3) recommend, for the consideration of the Supreme Council, candidates to the posts of Vice President and Secretary of the Supreme Council;
- 4) recommend, for the consideration of the Supreme Council, candidates for the appointment or election to the posts of the Prime Minister of Lithuania, the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Lithuania, the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania, heads of other state institutions accountable to the Supreme Council; (Amended 27 July 1990)
- $\,$ 5) hold talks and sign international treaties of Lithuania, submitting them for ratification to the Supreme Council.

The President of the Supreme Council shall issue directives.
The Vice Presidents (or Deputies to the President) of the Supreme Council shall exercise, as assigned by the President, a portion of the President's functions and act for him in his absence or when he is unable to perform his duties.

Article 88.

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall elect from the deputies of the Supreme Council standing committees for drafting laws, for preliminary consideration and preparation of issues within the Supreme Council's competence, for facilitating the implementation of laws of the Republic of Lithuania and resolutions of the Supreme Council, and for supervising the activities of state organisations. (Amended 23 October 1990)

The Supreme Council shall establish, when necessary, investigative, auditing and other committees on any questions.

Article 89.

Officials who are members of the Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania, heads of other state institutions established by the Supreme Council, judges of the Supreme Court of Lithuania, and members of the council of the Procuracy of the Republic of Lithuania and State Arbitration Board of Lithuania shall be elected and appointed based on the recommendations of the appropriate standing committees of the Supreme Council. (Amended 23 October 1990)

The newly elected Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania may appoint the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Ministers before the standing committees of the Supreme Council are established. (Amended 23 October 1990)

All state and public bodies organisations and officials shall carry out the instructions of the Supreme Council Committees, submitting all necessary information and documents to them.

Recommendations of the Committees shall be discussed by state and public institutions and organisations. The latter shall inform the Committees within the time period specified by them of the results of discussions and measures that have been adopted.

Article 90.

A deputy of the Supreme Council shall have the right during sessions to submit an inquiry to the Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania, its members, to heads of other institutions established or elected by the Supreme Council. The institution or official, upon receipt of an inquiry, shall make an oral or written reply at the same session of the Supreme Council, no later than within three days or according to other procedures established by the Supreme Council. (Amended 11 September 1990)

A deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall not be found criminally responsible, arrested, fined in an administrative order without the consent of the Supreme Council, and during the period between sessions - without the consent of the Presidium of the Supreme Council.

Article 91.

The procedure for the activities of the Supreme Council and its institutions shall be established by the rules of procedure of the Supreme Council and by other laws of the Republic of Lithuania on the basis of the Provisional Basic Law of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 92.

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall exercise control over the activities of all state institutions accountable to it.

For exercising the functions of state control the Supreme Council shall establish control institutions. The procedure for their organisation and activities shall be defined by law.

CHAPTER 11

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

Article 93.

Executive power of the Republic of Lithuania shall be vested in the Executive Branch. The Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania shall consist of the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers, and ministers. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 94.

The Prime Minister shall head and represent the Executive Branch.

The Prime Minister shall be approved by the Supreme Council on the recommendation of the President of the Supreme Council. Deputy Prime Ministers and Ministers shall be approved on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. The order of the Executive Branch formation shall be established by the Law on the Government and the Rules of Procedure of the Supreme Council. (Amended 11 September 1990)

Article 95.

The Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania shall be responsible to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania and shall be accountable to it; and during the period between the sessions of the Supreme Council - to the Presidium of the Supreme Council. (Amended 23 October 1990)

The Executive Branch shall make regular reports on its work to the Supreme Council and must have its confidence. If the Supreme Council by a majority of the total number of the deputies by a secret ballot expresses nonconfidence in the Executive Branch or an individual minister, the entire Executive Branch or that minister must resign. (Amended 23 October 1990; 8 January 1991)

Article 96.

When the Prime Minister is unable to exercise his duties or when the Prime Minister designates a Deputy Prime Minister to act for him, the latter shall act in his stead.

Article 97.

The Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania, on the basis of the legal acts of Lithuania and through the execution of this statutes, shall adopt decisions and issue directives, and shall organise and supervise their enforcement. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Decisions and directives of the Executive Branch shall be enforceable throughout the Republic. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 98.

Within the limits of its competence the Executive Branch of the Republic of Lithuania shall have the right to repeal the acts of ministries and other institutions subordinate to it. The Executive Branch shall have the right to appeal at the Supreme

Council against the decisions of a higher level local council if these decisions contradict the laws of Lithuania. (Amended 23 October 1990)

In cases provided for by the laws of Lithuania, the Executive Branch may suspend and protest the decisions of the local governing institutions in this council. In the event of a dispute, the Supreme Council adopts a final decision. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 99.

The Executive Branch shall hand over its mandate to the newly elected Supreme Council at its first session. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 100.

The composition of the Executive Branch, its powers and principles of its activity shall be described in the Law on the Government.

CHAPTER 12

LOCAL COUNCILS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES

Article 101.

The Republic of Lithuania shall establish its administrative-territorial division.

The Republic of Lithuania shall be divided into the following territorial units:

The Regions of: Akmene, Alytus, Anyksciai, Birzai, Ignalina, Jonava, Joniskis, Jurbarkas, Kaisiadorys, Kaunas, Kedainiai, Kelme, Klaipeda, Kretinga, Kupiskis, Lazdijai, Marijampole, Mazeikiai, Moletai, Pakruojis, Pasvalys, Panevezys, Plunge, Prienai, Radviliskis, Raseiniai, Rokiskis, Skuodas, Sakiai, Salcininkai, Siauliai, Silale, Silute, Sirvintos, Svencionys, Taurage, Telsiai, Trakai, Ukmerge, Utena, Varena, Vilkaviskis, Vilnius, Zarasai;

Towns under the Republic's jurisdiction: Vilnius, Alytus, Birstonas, Druskininkai, Marijampole, Kaunas, Klaipeda, Neringa, Palanga, Panevezys, Siauliai. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 102.

The Councils of People's Deputies shall be the institutions of state power in the regions, municipalities, townships and rural territorial units.

Article 103.

The Local Councils of People's Deputies, guided by the state interests, the interests of the citizens residing on the territory of the Council, and by the principles of local government, shall resolve all local issues, implement the decisions of the higher state institutions, consider issues of state importance and offer their proposals on these issues.

The Local Councils of People's Deputies shall preside over the state, economic, social and cultural activities on their territory, approve the local budget and the report on its implementation; shall direct their subordinate institutions, enterprises and organizations, exercise control over the institutions, enterprises and organizations on their territory, ensure that the Provisional Basic Law and other Laws, are observed, and ensure state and public order as well as the protection of citizens' rights.

Article 104.

Within the limits of their powers the Local Councils of People's Deputies shall ensure coordinated economic and cultural development on their territory, assume responsibility over observance of the laws by the enterprises, institutions and organisations under the jurisdiction of higher institutions on their territory. They shall coordinate and control their work in the spheres of the use of land and its natural wealth, the protection of the environment, construction, the use of labour resources, protection of historical and cultural monuments, production of consumer goods, of social, cultural, domestic and

other services.

Article 105.

The Local Councils of People's Deputies shall adopt resolutions within the limits of their powers granted to them by the laws of Lithuania. The resolutions of the Local Councils shall be observed by all the enterprises, institutions and organisations on their territory, as well as by officials and citizens.

Article 106.

The Local Councils of People's Deputies shall have the right to consider and resolve at their sessions any issues assigned to them by law. Those questions which must be submitted for discussion and decided exclusively at the sessions of these Councils shall be defined by law.

Article 107.

The Local Councils of the People's Deputies shall elect, from among the deputies, standing committees for preliminary consideration and preparation of issues which are within the competence of the Local Councils, as well as for coordination of the implementation of the decisions of the Councils, and the control of the activity of state institutions, enterprises, institutions and organisations.

The recommendations of the standing committees of the Local Councils must be reviewed by the appropriate state and social institutions, enterprises, and organisations. The results of such a review or adopted measures taken must be communicated to the committees within the specified time frame.

Article 108.

Lower level Councils of People's Deputies of local government shall have the right to protest to the Supreme Council the decisions adopted by higher level local governments regarding issues within the exclusive competence of the lower level local government.

The higher level Council of People's Deputies shall have the right to suspend the decisions of the lower level local government institutions if they contradict the laws of Lithuania. In the event of a dispute, the Supreme Council shall resolve the issue.

Article 109.

The Local Councils of People's Deputies shall work in close cooperation with public organisations and work collectives, shall submit significant issues for general public discussion, include them in the activities of the standing committees, of other institutions accountable to the councils, direct the work of the local voluntary associations and promote social initiatives of the people.

CHAPTER 13

EXECUTIVE INSTITUTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Article 110.

To fulfill the Laws of Lithuania, as well as the decisions of the Local Councils of People's Deputies, the Local Councils shall form institutions of management subordinate to them.

Article 111.

After the expiration of the term of the Local Councils, the institutions of management shall retain their powers until the formation of institutions of management by newly elected Local Councils.

Article 112.

The procedure for establishing local institutions of management shall be provided for by the laws on local government of Lithuania.

CHAPTER 14

COURT AND ARBITRATION

Article 113.

Justice in the Republic of Lithuania shall be exercised solely by the court. Courts with extraordinary powers may not be established in Lithuania.

The courts of the Republic of Lithuania shall be the Supreme Court of Lithuania and district (town) courts.

The procedures for the organisation and functioning of the courts of Lithuania shall be established by law.

Article 114.

The courts $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right)$

The Judges of the district (town) courts and of the Supreme Court of Lithuania shall be appointed by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania.

The assessors of the district (town) courts shall be elected by the Local Councils of People's Deputies, and assessors of the Supreme Court of Lithuania - by the Supreme Council.

The Judges $\,$ of the courts shall be elected for a term of ten years, assessors of the courts – for a term of five years.

The Judges and assessors of the court shall be accountable to the institutions of power which elected them and may be recalled according to the procedure established by law.

Article 115.

The Supreme Court of Lithuania shall be the highest judicial power in the Republic of Lithuania, exercising justice and supervising the activities of the courts in Lithuania in the procedure established by the laws of Lithuania.

The Supreme Court of Lithuania shall be composed of a Chairman, deputy chairmen, judges and court assessors.

Article 116.

Civilian and criminal cases shall be tried in courts together, excluding such cases as are established by law.

In exercising justice, the court assessors shall have all the rights of a judge.

Article 117.

The judges and court assessors shall be independent and obey only the law.

Interference by state and management institutions, by political parties, public organisations, public movements, persons in official positions, and other citizens, into the activities of the judges and court assessors when they are exercising justice, shall be prohibited and shall be subject to criminal liability in the manner established by law.

Inviolability of the judges and court assessors as well as other guarantees of their immunity shall be established by the law on the Lithuanian Court System and the Status of Judges and by other statutes of Lithuania.

Article 118.

All citizens of Lithuania shall be equal before the law and the court.

Article 119.

All courts shall hold public hearings of cases. A closed hearing of a case in a court shall be permitted for instances provided for by law if all the rules of procedure are observed.

Article 120.

A person against whom a legal action has been taken shall be

guaranteed the right to legal defense from the moment of arrest. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 121.

A court hearing in the Republic of Lithuania shall be conducted in the Lithuanian language. Persons participating in the case, unfamiliar with the Lithuanian language, shall be given the right to obtain full information on the materials of the case, to participate in the court proceedings via an interpreter and the right to use his native language in court.

Article 122.

A person shall be presumed innocent unless his guilt is proven through procedure established by law and recognised as established by a court sentence. Court sentences shall be passed in the name of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 123.

Legal aid to citizens and organisations shall be provided by the Council of Lawyers of the Republic of Lithuania. In cases specified by law, legal aid to the citizenry shall be provided free of charge. (Amended 23 October 1990)

The rules for the organisation and activity of the Council of Lawyers shall be governed by the Law on Legal Defence of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 23 October 1990)

Article 124.

Economic disputes between enterprises, institutions and organisations shall be resolved by state arbitration institutions in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 23 October 1990)

CHAPTER 15

THE PROCURACY

Article 125.

The highest supervisory institution over the precise and uniform observance of the law by all ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions and organisations, the executive institutions of the Local Councils of People's Deputies, collective farms, cooperative and other public organisations, officials, and citizens on the territory of Lithuania, shall be exercised by the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania and lower procurators subordinate to him. (Amended 27 July 1990)

Article 126.

On the recommendation of the President of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania shall be appointed by the Supreme Council to which he shall be responsible and accountable. (Amended 27 July 1990)

Article 127.

The Deputies to the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania shall be appointed by the Supreme Council on the recommendation of the Procurator-General. (Amended 27 July 1990)

The procurators of the districts and towns shall be appointed by the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 27 July 1990)

Article 128.

The term of office of the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania, his deputies and of all lower procurators shall be five years. (Amended 27 July 1990)

Article 129.

The institutions of the procuracy of Lithuania shall exercise their powers independently of the institutions of state executive power and local institutions of power; they shall be

accountable only to the Procurator-General of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 27 July 1990)

The mechanism of organisation and functioning of the Procuracy shall be established by the Law on the Procuracy of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amendment 27 July 1990)

CHAPTER 16

CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Article 130.

All laws of Lithuania and other acts of state institutions shall be issued on the basis of this Provisional Basic Law and in accordance with it.

Article 131.

The Provisional Basic Law of the Republic of Lithuania shall be altered on the decision of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, adopted by no less than a two-thirds majority of the entire number of the deputies of the Supreme Council or by a referendum.

Article 132.

The proposal to alter or amend the Provisional Basic Law shall be considered by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania when it is presented by a standing committee or by no

less than one-fifteenth of the deputies of the Supreme Council, or by the Executive Branch. (Amended 11 September 1990)

Vytautas Landsbergis

President Supreme Council Republic of Lithuania

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