

A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

Directing and authorizing the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Third Regular Session, 1967, Congress of Micronesia, to establish a Commission of the Congress to investigate and study the range of alternatives open to Micronesians in choosing their constitutional and future political status and report their findings to the Congress of Micronesia.

1 WHEREAS, the Micronesian people must ultimately have to make a
 2 choice as to their future political status, as mandated by the Charter
 3 of the United Nations and the Trusteeship Agreement for the Former
 4 Japanese Mandated Islands; and

5 WHEREAS, several developing countries have emerged from the
 6 condition of political dependence to the status of independence or
 7 self-government; and

8 WHEREAS, Micronesians should take steps to insure that they are
 9 fully cognizant of the issues involved and the range of alternatives
 10 open to them with respect to their future political status; now,
 11 therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Congress of Micronesia,
 13 Third Regular Session, 1967, the House of Representatives concurring,
 14 that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
 15 Representatives be and they are hereby directed and authorized to
 16 initiate and establish a Commission, consisting of one Congressman
 17 from each administrative District. All members of the Commission
 18 shall by majority vote elect a chairman during its first meeting.
 19 The Commission shall meet at such time and place as the chairman may
 20 designate, provided however, that the first meeting of the Commission
 21 shall be held at the seat of the Government of the Trust Territory.

22 The duties, powers, and responsibilities of the Commission shall
 23 be, but not limited to, the following:

- 24 a. to develop and recommend procedures and courses of
- 25 political education and action;

1 b. to present such range of possibilities and alternatives
2 as may be open to Micronesians with respect to their
3 choice of political status.

4 c. to recommend procedures and courses whereby the wishes
5 of the people of the Trust Territory may be ascertain with
6 respect to the political future status of Micronesia.

7 d. to undertake a comparative analysis and to select areas
8 of study of the manners and procedures whereby the
9 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Western Samoa, and Cook
10 Island, and other territories and developing nations
11 have achieved their self-government, independence, or
12 other status.

13 e. to perform such other or additional duties as the
14 Commission may deem appropriate to achieve the objectives
15 as above set forth; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each member of such Commission be
17 authorized salary and per diem at standard rate and be assigned such
18 other and further duties and responsibilities as the President of the
19 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives may deem
20 appropriate, necessary or advisable; and .

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings of the Commission be
22 reported to the Congress of Micronesia at its next Fourth Regular
23 Session.

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25 Adopted August 5, 1967

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A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

Extending the life of the Future Political Status Commission of the Congress of Micronesia and requiring a final report to be submitted during the Fifth Regular Session of the Congress in July, 1969.

1 WHEREAS, Senate Joint Resolution No. 25, adopted by the Congress
2 during its Third Regular Session, established the Future Political
3 Status Commission charged with the general duty of investigating the
4 range of alternatives open to Micronesians in choosing their consti-
5 tutional and future political status; and

6 WHEREAS, in January, 1968, this Commission began a comprehensive
7 study of the responsibility delegated to it by the Congress of Micro-
8 nesia; and

9 WHEREAS, the scope of this study requires that a substantial amount
10 of additional consideration be given to it by the members of the Future
11 Political Status Commission; now, therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Congress of
13 Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session, 1968, the Senate concurring, that
14 the Future Political Status Commission continue to conduct a study and
15 investigation as to the range of alternatives open to Micronesians with
16 respect to their choice of political status, as mandated to it by Senate
17 Joint Resolution No. 25 of the Third Regular Session of the Congress,
18 and submit its final report during the Fifth Regular Session of the
19 Congress of Micronesia; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all expenditures incurred in the conduct
21 of the study directed by this Resolution be approved by the Chairman of
22 the Commission and be paid by vouchers and warrants of the Commission
23 from the appropriation made by the Congress of Micronesia; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Joint Resolution
25 be transmitted to the High Commissioner and the Director of Budget and

Appendix C

1 Finance of the Trust Territory.

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3 Adopted July 22, 1968

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ADDRESS OF SPEAKER JOAQUIN C. ARRIGOLA
TO THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

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August 7, 1967

President Santos . . .

It is no secret that the Guam Legislature, composed of the elected representatives of the people of Guam, beginning with the Fourth Guam Legislature nearly ten years ago, aspires to have the various Mariana Islands re-united or re-integrated under a political union with Guam, within the framework of the United States of America. The various Guam Legislatures have repeatedly directed communications and resolutions to the Congress of the United States, seeking to re-establish under one legal entity the historical union of all of the peoples of the Marianas. And the peoples of the Northern Marianas have been equally interested in this goal, as manifested by the adoption of Resolution No. 7, in September 1959, by the Twelfth Saipan Legislature, and its approval by the then Mayor of Saipan.

The reunification of the Marianas within a homogeneous political and economic union under one governmental administration is as natural and inevitable as the sun rising in the east and setting in the west. The indigenous inhabitants of the Mariana Islands are all of one race, Chamorros. We have a common language as well as a common religion; we have common social customs and traditions. Many of us are related. Geographically, culturally, and economically, there is absolutely no reason for continuing our present political and economic segregation.

Yet, and this is the irony of the situation, the peoples of the Marianas have been so politically, socially, and economically separated

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for over half a century. Perhaps this rupture may have originally been the result of oversight, but its continuation now results from international power politics, and the fact remains that the peoples of the Marianas have been forcibly separated for well nigh 70 years, although the Mariana Islands, including Guam, were governed by Spain for over 300 years as one governmental unit until 1898 when Guam was ceded to the United States and the other islands sold to Imperial Germany, then mandated to Japan, and ultimately to the United States.

The question has been raised as to why, other than because of the common language and culture, the peoples of the Northern Marianas should re-integrate with Guam. What's in it for them. The answer is that re-integration will bring economic and political advancement for them. Let me briefly cite just a few practical illustrations.

American citizenship. Many have sought and are still seeking American citizenship, but you and I know that only a handful are given this privilege. The people of Guam are Americans, by virtue of an Act of Congress, and although Guam is not completely self-governing, the people nevertheless elect their Senators who have bona fide legislative powers, and hopefully will elect their own chief executive by 1970, the United States Senate having passed a bill for such purpose which bill is now pending in the House of Representatives. The important point is that we are citizens of the United States of America, the greatest and most powerful nation that this world has seen. We can move freely to and from the United States mainland and we are in no sense second class citizens but are entitled to the full protection of the laws governing

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Other citizens and of the very substantial benefits of such citizenship.

Employment and decent wages. In matters of economics, there is indubitably no lack of employment opportunities in Guam, and a high standard of living--the minimum wage being \$1.25 per hour under Guam laws and \$1.40 per hour (which will increase to \$1.60 per hour in February) under Federal laws wherever applicable, the large bulk of the work force of the territory being covered by this Federal minimum wage and overtime law, the latter feature requiring employers to pay time and a half for all hours over 40 worked in a week. We all know that Guam imports alien labor simply because there are insufficient number of skilled local workers to meet the demand. In addition, if we were all under one form of governmental administration, travel restrictions and red tape would be a thing of the past.

We have a good public educational system--elementary and secondary school and a four year liberal arts college. And at the risk of sounding immodest, the people of Guam own modern homes and the building industry for residential houses is moving at a rapid pace; practically every family owns at least one motor vehicle--all resulting directly from employment opportunities and decent wages. Skeptics may retort that in the event you become American citizens you will have to pay higher taxes to support your government. My answer is essentially this: 75% of 100 is 75; 100% of nothing is exactly nothing.

Man's intrinsic desire is to develop, progress and advance. This elementary concept is recognized in the trusteeship system, and is set forth in Article 76 of the United Nations Charter:

"Article 76. The basic objectives of the trusteeship system, in

accordance with the purposes of the United Nations laid down in Article 1 of the present Charter, shall be:

- a. to further international peace and security;
- b. to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the trust territories, and their progressive development towards self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of each territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, and as may be provided by the terms of each trusteeship agreement;
- c. to encourage respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion, and to encourage recognition of the interdependence of the peoples of the world; and . . ."

You therefore, as beneficiaries, if you will, under such trusteeship agreement, have the right of self-determination, so that the initial power to make a determination as to your political future lies with you and your constituents. Let the Congress of the United States know of your aspirations and wishes--by petition, plebiscite, or referendum. It may take a while--as our democratic processes are oftentimes slow--but if the powers that be in Washington are persuaded by your efforts, your aspirations and goals will be realized, and the peoples of the Marianas will be once more integrated--politically, economically, and socially.

It is indeed a rare privilege to be invited to address this distinguished body. Thank you for your kind courtesy, and Si Yuus Maase.