

8-8-68

2ND. MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

SIXTH REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 1-1968
INTRODUCED BY HON. FELIPE Q. ATALIG, SAIPAN

A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO RESPECTFULLY MEMORIALIZING
AND REQUESTING THE UNITED NATIONS TO EFFECT THE
IMMEDIATE RE-UNIFICATION OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS WITH THE TERRITORY OF GUAM

WHEREAS, the Mariana Islands, consisting of Rota, Aguigan, Tinian, Saipan, Farallon de Medinilla, Anatahan, Sariguan, Guguan, Alamagan, Pagan, Agrihan, Asuncion, Maug, and Farallon de Pajarcs, are administratively considered part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands by the administering authority, but without the consent of the inhabitants thereof; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the Mariana Islands are within the framework of the Trust Territory due to a historical accident that occurred in the language of the Treaty of Paris, which should have read "Guam and the Mariana Islands", as the indigenous inhabitants of Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the inhabited islands north of Saipan are all one race, known as Charorros, and having common language, religion, culture, customs, and traditions; and

WHEREAS, prior to the signing of the Treaty of Paris ending the Spanish-American War, Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the islands north of Saipan had a common history and heritage; and

WHEREAS, the separation of Guam from the rest of the Mariana Islands has always been considered to have been the result of an oversight by the United States in that it was not realized at the time that common ties existed among the people in the Marianas chain; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this separation, free movement of the inhabitants of the islands was curtailed which has and still causes great sorrow and inconvenience, especially to close family members who suddenly found themselves separated; and

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WHEREAS, the aspiration for re-unification of the Northern Mariana Islands with Guam is not intended to reflect directly or indirectly, or under any circumstances should it be regarded as to imply racial discrimination towards inhabitants of the other islands in the Trust Territory, but unlike the other islands, the indigenous inhabitants of the Mariana Islands are of one descent and are entirely similar in culture, language, customs, religion, and in future aspirations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 2nd. Mariana Islands District Legislature that the United Nations be and hereby is respectfully memorialized and requested to effect the immediate re-unification of the Northern Mariana Islands with the Territory of Guam; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and thereafter transmit copies of the same to the President of the United Nations Trusteeship Council, the President of the United States of America, Chairmen of the Interior Committees of both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and the District Administrator for the Mariana Islands District.

PASSED BY THE 2ND. MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AUGUST 8, 1968.

(Signed) VICENTE N. SANTOS, President

(Signed) DANIEL T. MUNA
Legislative Secretary