

MAR. MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

[5/13/72]

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~~RESOLUTION NO. 1-1972~~

INTRODUCED BY: HOLD-OVER COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING AND SUPPORTING THE STATEMENT OF POSITION OF THE MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA PRESENTED TO THE AMERICAN DELEGATION ON APRIL 12, 1972 DURING THE FOURTH ROUND OF STATUS TALKS IN PALAU, RELATIVE TO THE DESIRE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT TO PURSUE SEPARATE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO A PERMANENT ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Trusteeship Agreement for the Former Japanese Mandated Islands call for self-determination and self-government for all people of the Trust Territory; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Mariana Islands District have long aspired for a close and permanent affiliation with the United States of America and this sentiment has been well expressed over the past 10 years or more in referenda, in resolutions adopted by the Mariana Islands District Legislature, in petitions to the United Nations and by direct representation to the United States Government; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of Micronesia through its Joint Committee on Future Status has reached a tentative solution to the question of political status not in accordance with the wishes and aspiration of the people of the Marianas; and

WHEREAS, during the Fourth Round of Status Talks in Koror, Palau, between the American Delegation and the Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia, the Marianas Representatives on the Joint Committee on April 12, 1972 presented a statement of position to

Ambassador Franklin Hayden Williams of the American Delegation requesting a response from the United States Government to a proposal for separate status negotiations leading to full political union with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, in the language of the ~~statement of position~~: "The people of the Marianas Islands District desire a close political relationship with the United States of America.

"We advocate our present position for the sole reason that we desire membership in the United States political family because of the ~~demanded advantages of such a relationship~~. More than any other nation with which we have had contact, the ~~United States has brought to our people the values which we cherish and the economic goals which we desire~~. Continued affiliation with the United States offers the promise of the ~~preservation of these values and the implementation of these goals~~.

1. "The ~~values we cherish~~. The people of the ~~Marianas have for too long been dominated by autocratic powers, with little regard for the rights of their own subjects, let alone of the people of the Marianas. The coming of the United States, on the other hand, changed all this. The spirit of two hundred years of democracy, of a society which practiced the theory that a government should be 'of the people, by the people, and for the people', of the Bill of Rights, ensuring that every man is created equal under law and guaranteeing his human rights, of a country which has historically been a refuge for the oppressed and a land of opportunity for all people, was brought to Micronesia by the United States. For the first~~

~~people of the Mariana Islands District~~ with regard to their political future. We hope that the United States will be responsive to this approach, and would appreciate any expression of opinion from the United States Delegation on this question."

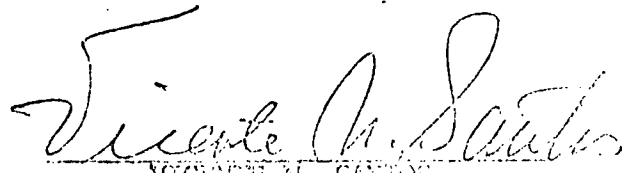
WHEREAS, we, the elected officials in the Mariana Islands District, for and on behalf of the people in this district, endorse and support the above mentioned Statement of Position of the Marianas Representatives on the Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia;

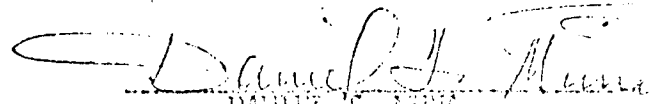
~~NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED~~, the ~~Legislature~~ Mariana Islands District Legislature, ~~First Special Session, 1972~~, ~~that this august body endorses and supports the Statement of Position of the Marianas Representatives on the Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia presented to the American Delegation on April 12, 1972, during the Fourth Round of Status Talks in Palau, relative to the desire of the people of the Mariana Islands District to pursue separate status negotiations leading to a permanent association with the United States of America; and~~

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED~~ that the ~~President certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption thereof and thereafter transmit copies of the same to the Security Council and the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations, the President of the United States, the Secretaries of the United States Departments of Interior, State and Defense, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of Micronesia, the Co-Chairmen of the~~

Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia, the President's Personal Representative to the Micronesian Status Negotiations, and the Marianas Representatives on the Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia.

PASSED BY THE 3RD. MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE MAY 13, 1972.


VICENTE W. SANTOS
President


DANIEL J. MUMA
Legislative Secretary