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November 5, 1973

Federal Authority in the Marianas

(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Status Agreement, the people of the Marianas, in the exercise of their sovereign right of self-determination, grant to the Government of the United States the authority to exercise in the Marianas the following powers, and no others:

(1) All powers which the Government of the United States has the authority to exercise in a State under the Constitution of the United States on the date of termination of the Trusteeship, except [. . . ,] and

(2) [any other powers]

(b) The people of the Marianas recognize that sovereignty over the Marianas will be vested in the Government of the United States by and to the extent of the grant of authority in this Status Agreement. Nothing in this Status Agreement, however, shall be deemed to incorporate the Marianas into the United States. The people of the Marianas further recognize that the Government of the United States may exercise the powers granted to it by this Status Agreement under Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2, of the United States Constitution.

Nothing in this subsection, however, shall be deemed to expand the powers granted to the Government of the United States by the people of the Marianas in subsection (a).

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Application of Federal Laws in the Marianas

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Status Agreement, every statutory law of the United States having general applicability in the United States and having provisions applicable in Guam, shall, on the date of termination of the Trusteeship, be made applicable in the Marianas in the same manner and to the same extent as such law is applicable on that date in Guam; provided, if the manner and extent to which such law is applicable in Guam would be beyond the authority granted to the United States by this Status Agreement, then such law shall be applicable in the Marianas in the same manner and to the same extent as it is applicable on that date in the State of Hawaii. Nothing in this section shall, however, be deemed to diminish the authority of the United States, consistent with the other provisions of this Status Agreement, to enact, repeal or modify statutory laws of the United States applicable in the Marianas.