

(SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM PROPOSED)

SAIPAN, NOVEMBER 30 (MNS)---A PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL DENTAL AND MEDICAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN AND ROTA HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO LOCAL LEADERS BY DR. RONAL HAVERLANT, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK BY CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA REPRESENTATIVE FELIPE Q. ATALIG.

DR. HAVERLANT MADE HIS PLANS KNOWN TO LOCAL OFFICIALS OF BOTH TINIAN AND ROTA AT THE INVITATION OF MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN

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ATALIG. ATALIG SAID THE PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL DENTAL AND MEDICAL HEALTH SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE TWO ISLANDS WOULD AUGMENT CURRENT SERVICES BEING PROVIDED BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES.

ATALIG SAID THAT AT PRESENT A MEDICAL OFFICER IS IMMEDIATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL DAY-TO-DAY HEALTH SERVICES FOR TINIAN AND ROTA. HE NOTED THAT DENTAL SERVICES TO THESE ISLANDS ARE "INFREQUENT" AND THAT THE APPROVAL OF THIS PROPOSAL BY THE LOCAL LEADERS AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS WOULD FACILITATE MORE FREQUENT CHECK-UPS. HE SAID THE PROGRAM WOULD ALSO ALLOW FOR IMMEDIATE CORRECTION OF DENTAL CASES.

THE MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN SAID THE PROGRAM IS TEMPORARY IN NATURE AND IT INVOLVES VOLUNTEER SERVICES FROM GUAM. CONGRESSMAN ATALIG NOTED THAT THE PROGRAM WOULD ONLY COST A ROUND TRIP AIR-FARE TICKET FROM GUAM TO ROTA AND TINIAN EVERY TWO WEEKS. HE SAID IF THE PROGRAM PROVES TO BE SUCCESSFUL, IT WILL BE CONTINUED ON A YEARLY BASIS.

CONGRESSMAN ATALIG AND DR. HAVERLANT HAVE BEEN WORKING CLOSELY DURING THE PAST WEEK REVIEWING PLANS FOR A MEETING WITH TINIAN OFFICIALS IN DECEMBER. HE SAID DISCUSSIONS ARE ALSO UNDERWAY TO HAVE THIS PROPOSAL APPROVED BY THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT.