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4TH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 69-1974

INTRODUCED BY: HON. DANIEL T. MUNA, SAIPAN

A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO REQUESTING THAT THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT BE ADMINISTERED SEPARATELY FROM THE OTHER DISTRICTS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

WHEREAS, the Charter of the United Nations and the Trusteeship Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America require that the inhabitants of the Trust Territory be promoted toward self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Mariana Islands District have for many years expressed their desire for a close and permanent political relationship with the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Reports received by the Mariana Islands District Legislature from the Marianas Political Status Commission show that the Commission and the United States Delegation are close to completing their work on an Agreement which would establish, upon termination of the Trusteeship, a self-governing Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Mariana Islands District Legislature believes that if the issues before the Marianas Political

Status Commission and the United States Delegation are satisfactorily resolved, the Agreement will be approved; and

WHEREAS, approval of the Agreement will be an exercise of the inalienable and sovereign right of self-determination by the people of the Mariana Islands District conclusively demonstrating their desire for a close and permanent political relationship with the United States; and

WHEREAS, the future political status desired by the people of the Mariana Islands District is far different from that which has been chosen by the people of the other districts of the Trust Territory as expressed by their representatives in the Congress of Micronesia; and

WHEREAS, it has been repeatedly recognized within the Mariana Islands District, in the other districts of the Trust Territory, and within the United Nations that the people of the Mariana Islands District desire a political status which is far different from that desired by the people of the other districts of the Trust Territory; and

WHEREAS, in order to make the transition to their respective new political relationships and responsibilities as successful as possible for both the Mariana Islands District and the other districts of the Trust Territory it is necessary to prepare for the new political relationships and responsibilities before they come into effect; and

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WHEREAS, the administration of the Mariana Islands District separately from the other districts of the Trust Territory, after approval of the Agreement, is a necessary and appropriate step by which the Mariana Islands District can prepare for and move toward its future political status; and

WHEREAS, the Mariana Islands District has been previously administered separately from the other districts of the Trust Territory by the United States,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mariana Islands District Legislature requests, on behalf of the people of the Mariana Islands District, that the United States, as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, take all steps which are necessary and appropriate for the administration of the Mariana Islands District separate and apart from the administration of the other districts of the Trust Territory including: establishing a separate executive authority for the Mariana Islands District; terminating all of the responsibility and authority of the Congress of Micronesia respecting the affairs of the Mariana Islands District, and granting such responsibility and authority to the Mariana Islands District Legislature; terminating the participation of representatives of the Mariana Islands District in the Congress of Micronesia; providing for the retention of locally raised

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revenues by the Mariana Islands District and for their appropriation by the Mariana Islands District Legislature; assuring, in order to prepare for the full measure of local self-government which will exist under the future political status, maximum participation by the people of the Mariana Islands District in all aspects of local government; and taking all such other steps as may be proper to administer the Mariana Islands District separate from the other districts of the Trust Territory in accordance with the wishes of the people of this district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the separate administration for the Mariana Islands District should occur as soon as may be possible after the approval of the Agreement concerning the future political status of the district by the people thereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the precise date on which separate administration will take effect and the terms of the separate administration for the Mariana Islands District should be determined in full consultation and cooperation with the Hold-Over Committee of the Mariana Islands District Legislature, representatives of the District Administration, the Mayors of the Municipalities of Saipan, Tinian and Rota and the Speakers of the Municipal Councils of Saipan, Tinian and Rota; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President should certify to, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof and thereafter transmit copies of the same to the General Assembly of the United Nations, the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations, the Security Council of the United Nations, the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Department of State, the Secretary of the Department of Interior, members of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and members of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, the High Commissioner, the President of the Senate of the Congress of Micronesia, the Speaker of the House of the Congress of Micronesia, the Marianas delegation to the Congress of Micronesia, and the District Administrator for the Mariana Islands District.

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