

MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION
P. O. Box 825
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

01
6

August 14, 1974

The Honorable Vicente N. Santos
President, Fourth Marianas
District Legislature
Fourth Regular Session
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

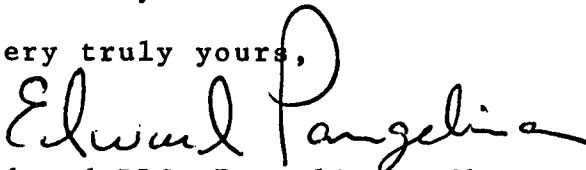
Dear Mr. President:

As indicated in the recent report of the Marianas Political Status Commission to the District Legislature, the subject of separate administration for the Mariana Islands District was discussed preliminarily during the Fourth Session of Status Negotiations with the United States Delegation.

Since the conclusion of the Fourth Session of Negotiations, the Commission has given further thought to this very important subject. Enclosed for your consideration is a draft resolution requesting separate administration for the Mariana Islands District, apart from the other districts, as soon as possible after the future political status for the Mariana Islands has been approved by the people. The Commission recommends that the Marianas District Legislature adopt this, or a comparable resolution, on the subject of separate administration during the current session of the Legislature.

The members of the Commission are available at your convenience to discuss this proposed resolution with the members of the District Legislature. Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

Very truly yours,



Edward DLG. Pangelinan, Chairman
MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION

Enclosure

cc: Members of the District Legislature

01-10257

FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO.

INTRODUCED BY: _____

A RESOLUTION 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 overwhelmingly by the Mariana Islands District Legislature and the people of the Mariana Islands District; 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 responsi-

bilities 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

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 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 Committee on Separate Administration created hereunder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Mariana Islands District Legislature, in consultation with the Chairman of the Marianas Political Status Commission, should appoint a Committee on Separate Administration to consist of five persons, including the District Administrator of the Mariana Islands District (or his representative) and one representative from each of the three municipalities; and that the Committee on Separate Administration, on behalf of the Mariana Islands District Legislature, should take such steps as are necessary and appropriate to secure and prepare for the separate administration of the Mariana Islands District, including consultation and coordination with the Marianas Political Status Commission, making such studies as it may deem necessary or appropriate concerning the achievement of, and the efficient exercise of government responsibilities under, separate administration, and entering into such discussions as it may deem necessary or appropriate concerning the issue of separate administration with persons and organizations within the Trust Territory and the United States; and that the Committee on Separate Administration should submit reports to each regular session of the Mariana Islands District Legislature concerning its activities until separate administration has been achieved; and

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.

PASSED BY THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE
ON THE _____ DAY OF _____, 1974.

Vicente N. Santos, President
MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

Legislative Secretary