

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

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August 19, 1974

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

Dear Mr. President:

During the meeting on August 16, 1974, between the District Legislature and the Marianas Political Status Commission, we summarized the Commission's recommendation regarding the creation of a non-profit membership corporation to receive, hold and administer the public lands in the Mariana Islands District in trust for the Marianas people. As promised, I am submitting the following materials on this subject to the District Legislature for its consideration:

(1) A memorandum prepared by the Commission's counsel summarizing the reasons underlying the Commission's recommendation and the steps required to organize such a non-profit membership corporation;

(2) Draft legislation requesting the return of the public lands, designating a non-profit membership corporation named the Marianas Public Land Corporation to receive, hold and administer the public lands, and authorizing certain persons to act as incorporators to organize the Marianas Public Land Corporation in accord with the provisions of the proposed legislation; and

(3) Draft Articles of Incorporation for the proposed Marianas Public Land Corporation.

The Commission respectfully requests that the District Legislature consider this proposed legislation during its current session. We believe that favorable action by the District Legislature on this subject during the current session is both timely and appropriate. Regardless of the High Commissioner's action on the public land legislation enacted by the Congress of Micronesia during its recently concluded special session, it is necessary for the District Legislature on behalf of the people of the Mariana Islands District to request the return of public lands and to designate an appropriate legal entity to receive these lands in accord with the provisions of the Public Land Policy Statement issued by the United States on November 2, 1973. Favorable action by the District Legislature, therefore, is required to ensure the prompt return

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of public lands to the people of the Marianas so that this most precious resource can be secured and managed for the benefit of the Marianas people.

The Marianas Political Status Commission recognizes that this subject is complicated as well as important. The members of the Commission and their counsel are available at your convenience to discuss the enclosed materials 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

Enclosures (3)

cc: Members of the District Legislature