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February 4, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR MPSC FILE

Re: Public Land Transfer Act

Eleanor O'Hara suggested recommending to Jim White that a change be made in the draft of this legislation which would prevent a district legislature from re-designating a legal entity once having made its designation of a recipient for public lands. I have not sent such a recommendation to Jim White for the following reasons. First, though such a provision would protect the Marianas Land Corporation to some extent, it might be very undesirable in other districts where re-designation might become necessary because the legal entity was not properly handling the lands entrusted to it. Second, it is not entirely clear from the way the legislation is now drafted whether re-designation is permitted. To attempt to amend the legislation might bring this point sharply into focus and result in clear legislative history or in a specific provision which would permit re-designation. In view of the fact that the district legislature is popularly elected, and that we once considered using the district legislature for the membership of the corporation, it does not seem worthwhile to seek this extra protection.

Mode and Willens agreed.



Michael S. Helfer

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