

LAW OFFICES OF  
M<sup>O</sup>NESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

ATTORNEYS AND MICRONESIAN COUNSELORS

CABLE ADDRESS: MICROLEX

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RICHARD S. ROSS  
ALBERT R. SNYDER  
MOSES ULUDONG  
HANS WILIANDER  
RUBEN ZACKHRAS

CENTRAL OFFICE  
POST OFFICE BOX 828  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TELEPHONE 6228, 6471, 6472

PALAU OFFICE  
POST OFFICE BOX 37  
KOROR, PALAU  
WESTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96940

MARSHALLS OFFICE  
POST OFFICE BOX 376  
HAJURO  
MARSHALL ISLANDS 96960

TRUK OFFICE  
POST OFFICE BOX D  
MOEN, TRUK  
EASTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96942

PONAPE OFFICE  
POST OFFICE BOX 129  
KOLONIA, PONAPE  
EASTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96941

MARIANAS OFFICE  
POST OFFICE BOX 826  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TELEPHONE 6243

TAP OFFICE  
POST OFFICE BOX 206  
COLONIA, TAP  
WESTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96943

Central Office

REPLY VIA AIR MAIL TO

May 19, 1975

Rec'd 5/28

The Honorable Rogers C.B. Morton  
Secretary of the Interior  
Office of the Dep't of Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20525

Dear Secretary Morton:

A few weeks ago, this office, upon request of our clients, a broadly based group of persons concerned about the forthcoming plebiscite to be held on June 17 in the Northern Mariana Islands, prepared a letter requesting you to revise the language which you have prescribed for the plebiscite ballot.

We understand that the letter was forwarded to you, and to various other interested persons, by our clients some two weeks ago. Neither we nor our clients have as yet received any response from you.

We are now enclosing a petition, circulated by our clients and signed by more than four hundred and fifty (450) persons, in support of that request. It may be of interest to you that the petition is signed by Chamorros as well as Carolinians, and by Popular Party as well as Territorial Party members. Thus both major ethnic groups and both political parties of the Marianas are represented. All support the concept of a "fair and impartial plebiscite" and recognize that the presently prescribed ballot language is not conducive to such a plebiscite.

We respectfully renew our clients' earlier request that the ballot language be revised as suggested in the May 1 letter. Time is running short. We would appreciate an early response so

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that we and our clients may determine whether further action  
may be appropriate or necessary to protect their interests.

Very truly yours,



Edward C. King

EK/ms

Enclosures

xc: All persons who received copies  
of the May 1 letter (w/ petition  
but not signatures).

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