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Dear Mr. King:

Acting Secretary of the Interior Frizzell has asked me to respond to your letter of May 19, 1975 to former Secretary Morton regarding the language of the ballot of the plebiscite to be held in the Marianas District on June 17, 1975 and enclosing a signed petition from your clients.

Apparently your letter crossed in the mails with Acting Secretary Frizzell's cable response to the United Carolinian Association which was sent from Washington on May 23, 1975 and which addressed the same subject. In that cable message, it was stated that "...While it is not possible for the U.S. Government to accede to your request for a change in the wording of the 'No' vote on the plebiscite ballot, I wish to reassure you that the present language was intended to be entirely fair and impartial. The United States further intends that the plebiscite education program should provide all of the voters all of the relevant facts including objective information and explanation of the choices offered on the ballot."

This office is pleased to be of assistance to you; it is our hope that you will see fit to communicate with us concerning any further positions of your clients.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Emmett M. Rice

Emmett M. Rice
Acting Director of
Territorial Affairs

Mr. Edward C. King
Micronesian Legal Services Corporation
Central Office
P.O. Box 826
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

cc:
Sec. Files
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