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STATUS LEO

HICETERPACIS SAIPAN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

UNCLASSIFIED

SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

PRIORITY

FROM STATUS LEO 398

PASS INTERIOR FOR CMEN FOR ACTION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT TQ

SUBJECT: MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE RESOLUTION 106-1975

THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE REQUESTS THAT THE TEXT OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE TRANSMITTED PROMPTLY TO THE CHAIROREN AND MEMBERS OF SENATE ARMED SERVICES AND FOREIGN RELAYONS COMMITTEES.

COPIES WILL BE MAILED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

RESOLUTION NO. 106-1975

INTRODUCED BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION ON THE JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COVENANT TO ESTABLISH THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEREAS, THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE TRUSTERSHIP 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, FOR THE PAST 400 YEARS THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS HAVE LIVED UNDER THE AUTOCRATIC RULES OF FOREIGN RULERS WITHOUT THE RIGHT TO SPEAK OUT ON THE IMPORTANT MATTERS WHICH FACED THEM, SUCH AS THE NATURE OF THEIR GOVERNMENT, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR ECONOMY AND

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MORE FOLLOWS

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THEIR FUTURE POLITICAL DESTINY; AND

WHEREAS, THE COMING OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE MARIANAS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP USHERS IN A NEW ERA FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS AND INTRODUCES THE SPIRIT AND PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY, THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND THE IDEALS WHICH HAVE SUSTAINED THE UNITED STATES FOR ALMOST 200 YEARS; AND

WHEREAS, THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS HAS BROUGHT TO THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE AND POLITICAL MATURITY AND HAS TAUGHT THE PEOPLE HOW TO LIVE AS FREE MEN AND WOMEN; AND

WHEREAS, THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS HAVE OVER THE PAST TWENTY YEARS OR MORE EXPRESSED THEIR FERVENT DESIRE AND ASPIRATION TO JOIN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN A CLOSE AND PERMANENT POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP; 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 MAY 1972 THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE CREATED THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, WHICH CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS; AND

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WHEREAS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DESIRES OF THE PEOPLE, THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE INSTRUCTED THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING THE TERMS OF A CLOSE, PERMANENT AND ENDURING POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS; AND

WHEREAS, OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS CONDUCTED POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WHICH CULMINATED IN THE SIGNING OF A COVENANT TO ESTABLISH THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; AND

WHEREAS, ON JUNE 17, 1975 IN A FREE AND DEMOCRATICALLY HELD PLEBISCITE, THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY 78.8 PERCENT TO APPROVE THE SAID COVENANT; AND

WHEREAS, APPROVAL OF THE COVENANT BY THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS WILL FULFILL THE INALIENABLE AND SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION BY THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT AND CONCLUSIVELY FULFILLING THEIR DESIRE FOR A CLOSE AND PERMANENT POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES; AND

WHEREAS, IN THE COVENANT, SPECIFIC PROVISIONS ARE INCLUDED TO ENABLE THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT TO FORMULATE AND ADOPT THEIR OWN CONSTITUTION AND TO UNDERTAKE CERTAIN ESSENTIAL TRANSITIONAL STUDIES AND PROGRAMS TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT WHICH ARE ALL CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE COVENANT BY THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

WHEREAS, THE COVENANT HAS BEEN FAVORABLY ACTED UPON BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS; AND

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WHEREAS, IN ORDER NOT TO DELAY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE MARIANAS THAT HAS BEEN SOUGHT BY THE PEOPLE THEREOF FOR MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY, PROMPT ACTION ON THE PASSAGE OF THE JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE "COVENANT TO ESTABLISH THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" WITHOUT DELAY WILL BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF ALL CONCERNED;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION, THAT THE UNITED STATES SENATE IS HEREBY RESPECTFULLY URGED AND REQUESTED TO TAKE PROMPT AND FAVORABLE ACTION ON THE JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE "COVENANT TO ESTABLISH THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRESIDENT CERTIFY TO AND THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY ATTEST THE ADOPTION HEREOF AND THEREAFTER TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE PRESIDENT AND THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

PASSED BY THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, NOVEMBER 11, 1975

END TEXT. BERGESSEN

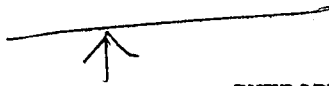
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FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION



RESOLUTION NO. 106-1975  
INTRODUCED BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. A RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE UNITED  
2. STATES SENATE TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION ON THE JOINT  
3. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COVENANT TO ESTABLISH  
4. THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
5. IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

6. WHEREAS the Charter of the United Nations and the Trusteeship  
7. Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America  
8. require that the inhabitants of the Trust Territory be promoted toward  
9. self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular  
10. circumstances; and

11. WHEREAS, for the past 400 years the people of the Mariana  
12. Islands have lived under the autocratic rules of foreign powers without  
13. the right to speak out on the important matters which faced them, such  
14. as the nature of their government, the development of their economy and  
15. their future political destiny; and

16. WHEREAS, the coming of the United States in the Marianas under  
17. the auspices of the United Nations Trusteeship ushers in a new era  
18. for the people of the Mariana Islands and introduces the spirit and  
19. principles of democracy, the Bill of Rights and the ideals which have  
20. sustained the United States for almost 200 years; and

21. WHEREAS, the United States Administration of the Trust Territory  
22. of the Pacific Islands has brought to the people of the Marianas  
23. economic development, education, health care and political maturity  
24. and has taught the people how to live as free men and women; and

Resolution No. 106-1975

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1. WHEREAS, the people of the Mariana Islands have over the past  
2. twenty years or more expressed their fervent desire and aspiration  
3. to join the United States of America in a close and permanent  
4. political relationship; and

5. WHEREAS, the future political status desired by the people of  
6. the Mariana Islands District, is far different from that which has  
7. been chosen by the people of the other districts of the Trust  
8. Territory as expressed by their representatives in the Congress of  
9. Micronesia; and

10. WHEREAS, it has been repeatedly recognized within the Mariana  
11. Islands District, in the other districts of the Trust Territory, and  
12. within the United Nations that the people of the Mariana Islands  
13. District desire a political status which is far different from that  
14. desired by the people of the other districts of the Trust Territory;  
and

15. WHEREAS, in May, 1972 the Mariana Islands District Legislature  
16. created the Marianas Political Status Commission, which consists of  
17. representatives of all of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands;  
18. and

19. WHEREAS, in accordance with the desires of the people, the  
20. Mariana Islands District Legislature instructed the Marianas Political  
21. Status Commission to negotiate with the United States concerning the  
22. terms of a close, permanent and enduring political relationship between  
23. the United States and the Northern Mariana Islands; and

24. WHEREAS, over the past three years the President's Personal  
25. Representative and the people of the Marianas conducted political

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1. status negotiations which culminated in the signing of a Covenant to  
2. Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political  
3. Union with the United States of America; and

4. WHEREAS, on June 17, 1975 in a free and democratically held  
5. plebiscite, the people of the Marianas voted overwhelmingly 78.8% to  
6. approve the said Covenant; and

7. WHEREAS, approval of the Covenant by the United States Congress  
8. will fulfill the inalienable and sovereign right of self-determination  
9. by the people of the Mariana Islands District and conclusively  
10. fulfilling their desire for a close and permanent political relationship  
11. with the United States; and

12. WHEREAS, in the Covenant, specific provisions are included to  
13. enable the people of the Mariana Islands District to formulate and  
14. adopt their own constitution and to undertake certain essential  
15. transitional studies and programs toward self-government which are  
16. all contingent upon approval of the Covenant by the Congress of the  
17. United States.

18. WHEREAS, the Covenant has been favorably acted upon by the  
19. House of Representatives, United States Congress and the United  
20. States Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; and

21. WHEREAS, in order not to delay the establishment of the  
22. constitutional government of the Marianas that has been sought by  
23. the people thereof for more than a quarter of a century, prompt  
24. action on the passage of the Joint Resolution to approve the  
25. "Covenant to Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
26. Islands in Political Union with the United States of America" without  
27. delay will be in the best interest of all concerned;

Resolution No. 106-1975

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1. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Fourth Mariana Islands
2. District Legislature, Seventh Regular Session, that the United States
3. Senate is hereby respectfully urged and requested to take prompt and
4. favorable action on the Joint Resolution to Approve the "Covenant to
5. Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas in Political
6. Union with the United States of America."
7. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President certify to and
8. the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and thereafter
9. transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chairman and members of
10. the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Chairman and members of
11. the <sup>Senate</sup> Armed Services Committee, ~~of the United States Congress,~~ the
12. President and the members of the United States Senate.

PASSED BY THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, NOVEMBER 11, 1975

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