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A PETITION TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE

WE, the undersigned, the common and ordinary members of the Carolinian community of the Mariana Islands District, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, do hereby respectfully petition and request the United States Senate to concur and adopt the Covenant to Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, which was negotiated between the duly authorized representatives of the United States and the people of the Mariana Islands District.

WHEREAS, the Carolinian community of the Mariana Islands District, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands consists of approximately 3,000 individuals amongst a population of over 14,000 people; and

WHEREAS, the Carolinians in the Mariana Islands District have lived in these islands for over 150 years in peace, harmony and cooperative relationship with the other ethnic groups of the Marianas; and

WHEREAS, for the past 20 years or more, the Carolinian community has shared equally the desire and aspiration of the rest of the people of the Marianas to join with the United States in a close, permanent and enduring political relationship; and

WHEREAS, during the Marianas Plebiscite held on June 17, 1975, a large number of the Carolinian community voted in favor of the adoption of the Covenant to establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas; and

WHEREAS, subsequently after the Marianas Plebiscite, those Carolinians who did not vote in favor of the adoption of the Covenant, did express their support and decision publicly to recognize the will and mandate of the majority of the people of the Marianas in support of the Covenant; and

WHEREAS, there exists a small minority amongst the Carolinian community who call themselves the United Carolinians Association and pretend to represent all Carolinians in the Mariana Islands District and whose main objective is to promote the selfish, personal and political interests of its less than 20 active members; and

WHEREAS, the said United Carolinians Association does not have any legal mandate nor public support to represent any Carolinian other than its limited membership; and

WHEREAS, we, the common and ordinary members of the Carolinian community in the exercise of our inalienable rights of self-determination and living as free people in a democratic society have expressed freely our choice, in a United Nations-observed and freely conducted plebiscite on June 17, 1975, to join with the United States in political union; and

WHEREAS, our reasons for making such a profound and solemn decision lie in our fervent believe in the spirit and ideals of democracy, the dignity of man, and the right to choose our political destiny and to live as free people which the United States of America has brought to our people in the Marianas after over four centuries of foreign, autocratic domination.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the common and ordinary members of the Carolinian Community of the Mariana Islands District, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, do hereby respectfully petition and request the United States Senate to concur and adopt the Covenant to Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, which was negotiated between the duly authorized representatives of the United States and the people of the Mariana Islands.

THAT THIS PETITION and copies thereof shall be transmitted to the President of the United States; to the President of the United States Senate; to the Chairmen of the Senate Committees on Foreign Relations, Armed Services and Interior and Insular Affairs.

SIGNED THIS 16th day of November, 1975, on Saipan, Mariana Islands

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