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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

August 5, 1977.

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The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It is my understanding that the Constitution for the Northern Mariana Islands will shortly be coming to your attention for final approval.

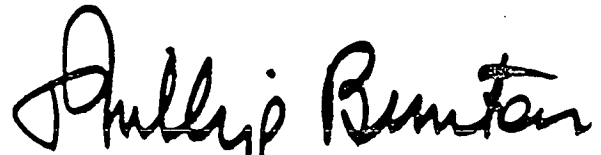
As the author of Public Law 94-241 that approved the Covenant to establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, I have closely followed this entire process and am well acquainted with the proposed Constitution.

Having studied this document at considerable length, I am pleased to convey to you my satisfaction with it, my belief that it is a fine Constitution as written, and that it is in full compliance with the provisions of the Covenant.

It is my hope that you will also see it as such, that you will approve it at the earliest possible date and issue your proclamation so that the Northern Mariana people can move ahead with preparations for their November election.

Warmest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



PHILLIP BURTON
Chairman, Subcommittee on
National Parks and
Insular Affairs