

## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor

Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

JUN 25 1985

Phone: 6407/6408/6581 Telex: 783-622 Gov. NAI

The Honorable Juan T. Lizama Chairman, Committee on Governmental Institution Second Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention Saipan, CM 96950

Dear Chairman Lizama:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 23, 1985 requesting my comments on proposed amendments to our Constitution which have been referred to your Committee.

I appreciate your inviting me to participate in your deliberations but feel that I must decline to comment in an official capacity. The people of our great Commonwealth elected you and your fellow delegates to recommend amendments on a non-partisan basis. As an elected official, I am fearful that my comments would be construed as an attempt on my part to influence your decisions. I would, however, reserve my right as a private citizen to comment during public hearings should the need arise. Since the general public will be afforded the opportunity to testify, I trust that you understand that, by this action, I am attempting to preserve the integrity of the Convention's ultimate recommendations.

Again, thank you for your kind invitation. I am most confident that you and your colleagues will discharge your duties and responsibilities in a professional, competent fashion.

Sincerely, PEDRO P TENORIO

Governor

CC: President, Second Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention

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