

JOSE M. TAITANO  
P.O. BOX 705  
PUERTO RICO  
SAIPAN, CM 96950

JULY 1, 1985

DELEGATE JUAN T. LIZAMA  
CHAIRMAN  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS  
SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS CONSTITUTIONAL  
CONVENTION  
HOUSE OF TAGA  
SAIPAN, CM 96950

Dear Mr. Lizama:

My sincerest appreciation to you and your honorable committee for extending me the opportunity to testify on Delegate Proposals 11-85, 87-85, 133-85 and 144-85.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, there are three proposals calling for constitutional amendments to section 6 (a) of article XI. I am in favor of proposal No. 133-85 for its clarity and detail description of the necessary amendments. I would strongly recommend however that the title "To Minimize Corruption" be stricken out and rephrased. As it is, it seems to imply that corruption exists in the MPLT. I do not believe any branch, agency, board or commission in our government conduct its businesses or affairs corruptively.

I am in favor of Delegate Proposal No. 144-85 and would appreciate if the following could in anyway be considered.

1. Election of a Director of Carolinian Affairs should be by people of Carolinian descent alone. A person who is a Carolinian is either full blooded descendant of both Carolinian parents, or being Carolinian through Matrilineal (female parent) descent.

2. That the Carolinian Affairs office maintains an up-to-date listing of all Carolinians in the CNMI who are citizens of the Commonwealth of the NMI.

3. That the Carolinian Affairs office maintains an up-to-date listing of all registered Carolinian voters in the CNMI.

4. That the qualifications shall also include, "He or She shall have been born citizen of the CNMI."

5. That the present Carolinian Affairs Office and "UT" remains permanent site of this agency.

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee, the subject of "CAROLINIAN DESCENT" could be a very controversial issue which could easily invite disputes in the court with adverse effects. If this issue can not be resolved, I would highly recommend that the Director of the Carolinian Affairs office remain an appointed one as it is.

Once again, thank you very much for inviting me to participate in this very important deliberation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Taitano", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jose M. Taitano

xc: Members, Committee on Governmental Institutions