



# Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Department of Natural Resources

Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950



July 2, 1985

The Honorable Juan T. Lizama  
Chairman, Committee on Governmental  
Institutions  
Second Northern Marianas Constitutional  
Convention  
House of Taga  
San Vicente, Saipan, CM 96950

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in reference to the following Delegate Proposal No. 3  
"To abolish the Marianas Public Land Corporation and re-estab-  
lish same as a Department of Land Management" and Proposal No. 86-  
create a Department of Land Management whose duties and func-  
tions include those of the Land Commission, Division of Lands and Surveys  
and the Marianas Public Land Corporation".

On behalf of the Lands and Survey Division, I want to thank you  
and this Committee for giving me the opportunity to comment. Mr. Lizama,  
we agree to both proposals for the creation of a Department of Land  
Management. Centralizing all the offices involve in land matters under  
one roof, should promote an efficient government office in the  
delivery of public services. This effort will tend to relocate  
offices in one place which should be accessible by the general public  
in one trip. As we always experienced a shortfall in our budget,  
departmental budget directed towards a goal at a time will surely  
accomplish some of our undelivered services.

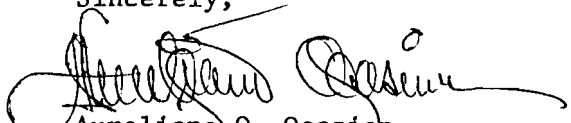
We wish to inform this committee about the upcoming H.B. No. 100  
provide for a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Statute  
Law, and for other purposes". This bill involves land, so, what  
will be the function of the proposed Department of Land Management  
under this bill? Is there also a way, so that the Commonwealth Recorder's  
office be within the proposed department?

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These are just, but some of our concerns regarding the subject proposals. Additional views and comments will be provided by the Chief, Division of Lands and Surveys upon his return next week, if required.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to comment on these proposals.

Sincerely,



Aureliano O. Ocasio  
Acting Chief, Lands and Surveys