



# NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND

P.O. BOX 1247  
SAIPAN, CM 96950

July 5, 1985

Mr. Lorenzo I. Guerrero  
Chairman  
Committee on Finance & Other Matters  
Second Northern Marianas  
Constitutional Convention  
Saipan, CM 96950

re: DP 197-85

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Delegate Proposal 197-85 proposes to provide for a constitutional provision which would extend membership in the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund to federal government employees in the Commonwealth.

In 1980, the Legislature enacted the present pension plan for government employees of the CNMI and the public corporations. A year later, Trust Territory Government employees were also made eligible to enroll in the program. While current retirement law does not permit membership by employees of the United States government, prior service (i.e., service performed in the Northern Mariana Islands prior to October 1, 1980) may be credited if the employee subsequently worked for (and became a Fund member) of the CNMI or TTG.

The retirement program is a fairly young pension plan that needs continuous nurturing. It is for this reason that I would prefer to see it remain a subject of local legislation.

Thank you for giving our office an opportunity to comment on the referenced proposal.

Sincerely,

  
Herman Q. Guerrero  
Administrator