



*The Senate*  
FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
P.O. Box 129  
Saipan, CM 96950

Phone: 6534/6539

July 17, 1985

Herman T. Guerrero  
President  
Second Northern Marianas Constitutional  
Convention  
Saipan, CM 96950

Dear Mr. President:

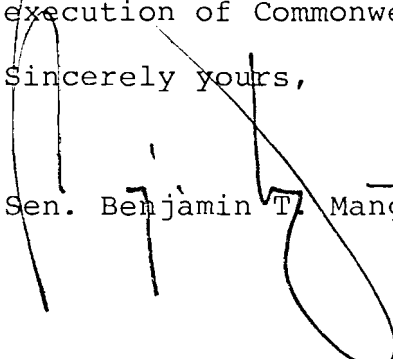
I wish to call to your attention, and particularly to the attention of those Delegates representing Rota and Tinian a serious defect in your Committee Recommendation No. 41, concerning local government agencies.

The proposal even further weakens and confuses the relationship between the central government and the mayors. The amendment to subsection 17(a) and (b) of Article III, contained in Section 2 of the proposal (page 6, lines 14-17) requires the governor to delegate to the mayor responsibilities deemed appropriate. This does nothing to resolve the issue. Each governor could deem different responsibilities appropriate. Confusion is enhanced by this provision, not clarified.

The problem is further compounded by the next part of the provision (page 6 line 20) which makes the resident department heads responsible for public services. As I have taken pains to point out, and as the history of the present Constitution clearly proves, supervision of public services by resident department heads in this way is definitely not in the public interest. Subsection 10 of Section 2 of the proposal poses just as much conflict with subsection 9 as the current Constitutional provisions.

I urge the Convention to seriously reconsider this proposal, which is of great importance to the effective and responsible execution of Commonwealth Laws.

Sincerely yours,

  
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Sen. Benjamin T. Manglona