

## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

P.O. Box 5153 CHRB, SAIPAN, MP 96950 - 5153 TEL. NOS.: (670) 234-6925/6958/8036 FAX NO.: (670) 234-1013

JUN. 2 1 1995

The Honorable Delegate Tomas B. Aldan Chairman Third Constitutional Convention Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Saipan, MP 96950

and

The Honorable Delegate Juan S. Tenorio Vice Chairman Third Constitutional Convention Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Delegates Aldan and Tenorio:

The proposed amendments to reduce members of both houses of the Commonwealth Legislature is highly welcome and I am in full support of this amendment.

Considering the budgetary constraints together with the population of CNMI, the reduction in members of the Legislature from 27 to 19 is a welcome change. However, two items concern me under paragraph two. They are:

- 1. I am unsure of why the Lt. Governor is mentioned here as the Presiding Officer of the Senate. CNMI having been noted as "very political," I am recommending that our delegates leave the term "separation of power" alone or let legislators decide who their leader will be instead of allowing the executive branch to decide the daily activities of the legislature.
- 2. With the proposed reduction of eight (8) members, the entire legislative budget should also be reduced. The proposed 2% of the CNMI revenue would increase their present budget by one million dollars or from 2.8 to 3.8 million dollars per annum. I recommend 2% be reduced to 1%.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed admendments.

Sincerely,

LUIS S. CAMACHO Director of Personnel