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MESSAGE

Herman --

Here's a list of advantages to the Administration that John Tenorio and Brenda Tenorio reviewed this morning, along with the Governor.

Deanne

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OF BENEFIT TO THE ADMINISTRATION

The Convention delegates believed that certain of the amendments would be of assistance to any Governor:

- . Downsizing of the legislature, and particularly the downsizing of the Senate and the power of the Lieutenant Governor to break ties, makes it less likely that legislators from Rota and Tinian can hold up important legislation that benefits the Commonwealth as a whole.
- . Election of all members of the House at large in the same election as the Governor gives the Governor's party an opportunity to put both a legislative majority and a Chief Executive in place as a team.
- . The longer terms in the house, the budget ceiling on the legislature, and the prohibition on using the legislature's funds for political purposes should help decrease the amount of purely political activity geared to elections.
- . Placing education back in the Executive Branch under a strong Secretary of Education gives the Governor more control over this important part of the Commonwealth's budget.
- . The Governor's nominees are confirmed automatically if the legislature does not act within 60 days.
- . Downsizing of the Civil Service Commission and providing the power to control salary increases gives the Administration the opportunity to exercise more control over the cost of government.
- . Placing land functions within the Executive Branch with flexibility to control by regulations how land is placed in permanent preserves allows the Administration to act promptly on land matters.
- . Eliminating all guaranteed budgets (the Public School System, the College, and the Public Auditor) gives the Administration more flexibility with respect to the overall budget and more control of the entities that formerly had guaranteed budgets.
- . The deletion of "as provided by law" from the description of the Governor's emergency powers should allow the Governor more flexibility.
- . The deletion of the residency requirement for Attorney General should allow the Governor more flexibility in appointments.
- . The deletion of the current provision on boards and commissions should allow the Governor more flexibility in removals.

. The deletion of the Special Assistant for Women's Affairs and the Resident Assistant for Indigenous Affairs, and the substitution of the Council on Indigenous Affairs, should be a more efficient arrangement.

. The change in succession allowing a lieutenant governor who succeeds to the office of governor during a term to appoint his or her own lieutenant governor should help maintain political stability.

. The new authority for the Supreme Court to issue advisory opinions (and the prohibition on other lawsuits between local government and the executive branch, for example) will resolve intra-governmental disputes more quickly.

. The revised provision on the Washington Rep clarifies the governor's power to appoint his own representative in Washington.

. Reduced Commonwealth funding of local government employees will stop the growth of local governments on Rota and Tinian.

. Elimination of the Mayor of the Northern Islands will decrease the overall size of local government and decrease the burden on the Commonwealth.

. Clarification of the rules with respect to land alienation should provide a better climate for business investment.