



POST CONVENTION COMMITTEE
Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention

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OCT 26 1995

Honorable Diego T. Benavente
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Ninth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
P. O. Box 586
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Enclosed is a draft appropriation bill to fund the activities of the Post Convention Committee and to retire outstanding obligations for the Pre-Convention Committee and the Convention pursuant to Public Law 9-18. The funding is needed to carry out the intent of Public Law 9-56.

If we are to conduct the public education on the proposed 19 amendments to the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands, funds are needed. We have plans to publish the Chamorro translation and possibly the Carolinian translation of the proposed constitutional amendments starting next month. However, this cannot materialize if we cannot afford to pay the Chamorro and Carolinian translators. It is important to educate the voters on these amendments before they go to the polls in March 1996.

Your favorable and prompt attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


HERMAN T. GUERRERO
Chair

Enclosure

cc: Senate President, w/encl.

SESSION, 1995

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To provide appropriations for certain expenses relating to the Third Constitutional Convention; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 Section 1. **Findings.** The Legislature finds that there are
2 certain expenses relating to the Third Northern Mariana Islands
3 Constitutional Convention that will arise in Fiscal Year 1996. These
4 expenses include unpaid bills of the Convention and the Post-
5 Convention Committee; the cost of public education and publicity; and
6 the cost of the special election, to be held in March of 1996.

7 Although Public Law No. 9-19 allows reprogramming, the
8 Legislature finds that it is better to have proper appropriations for
9 these expenses.

10 Section 2. **Appropriations.** The following sums are
11 appropriated for Fiscal Year 1996.

12 a) For expenses of the Post Convention Committee, including
13 (but not limited to) payment of outstanding debts or bills of the Pre-
14 Convention Committee, Convention, and public education and
15 publicity relating to the amendments enacted by the Convention,

1 \$250,000. Expenditure authority for this money shall rest with the
2 Chair of the Post Convention Committee.

3 b) For expenses relating to the Special Election on the
4 Constitutional Convention, to be held in March 1996, \$100,000.
5 Expenditure authority shall rest with the Chair of the Board of
6 Elections or his designee.

7 Section 3. **Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the
8 application of any such provision to any person or circumstance
9 should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the
10 remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons
11 or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not
12 be affected thereby.

13 Section 4. **Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer
14 contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing
15 right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or
16 under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.
17 Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding
18 instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of this Act
19 shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying,
20 any liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at
21 the date this Act becomes effective.

1 Section 5. **Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its
2 approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such
3 approval.

Date: _____ Introduced By: _____

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency:
