



Office of the Mayor
 The Northern Islands
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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JOSEPH T. OGUMORO
 Mayor of the Northern Islands

December 7, 1995

The Honorable Herman T. Guerrero
 Chairman, Post-Convention Committee
 Third Northern Mariana Islands
 Constitutional Convention
 Caller Box 10007
 Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Chairman Guerrero:

Seasons greetings to you and your staff!

The Northern Islands Mayor's Office (NIMO) is extremely concern about the 3rd Constitutional Convention's proposal to abolish the NIMO. At this point in time, I need to obtain critical information to enable me to understand the logic and rationale behind the proposal and the anticipated voting procedures. As such, I am formally and officially requesting your assistance in providing my office with the following information:

1. MINUTES. A copy of the Minutes from the *Committee on Executive Branch and Local Government* in their discussion and deliberation regarding the closure or abolition of the Northern Islands Mayor's Office (NIMO). I need to know the official discussions, justifications, and logic behind the Committee's proposal to close or abolish the NIMO. I also need to know the voting roster of the Committee - who voted in favor and against the closure of the office. As noted, I need the Committee's voting records on this matter and other deliberation affecting the NIMO.
2. MINUTES. A copy of the Minutes from the *Convention Floor* regarding the closure of the Northern Islands Mayor's Office. This request is similar to number "1" above but is asking for the Minutes of the Convention as a whole and not the committee. I need to know the official discussions, justifications, and logic behind the Convention's proposal to close the NIMO. I also need to know the voting roster of the Convention floor - who voted in favor and against the closure of the office. As noted, I need the Convention's Floor voting records on this matter and other deliberation affecting the NIMO.

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To	Post Con Con OFC	From	Chair		
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3. **VOTING PROCEDURES.** I need to know how the public is anticipated to vote in the recommendation to close the office. How is the Post Convention Committee proposing to address this matter? Would the public be given the opportunity to vote either to retain or abolish the Northern Islands Mayor's Office (NIMO)? This issue is too important for the people of the Northern Islands to simply bury it with other important articles and sections anticipated to be voted on. As such, I strongly believe that the public must be given the opportunity to vote on this important issue separately. With regards to this matter, the public must be given the opportunity to vote whether to retain or abolish the NIMO. Without this opportunity, the subsequent voting would have effectively violate the Constitutional amendment procedures and invites litigation.


For your information, I have been approached by several residents of the Northern Islands and have been requested to assist them in understanding the proposals and in making sure that they are given the opportunity to vote "NO" on the proposal to abolish the office. Thus, without this matter being voted separately, the Northern Islanders would be deprived of their right to vote on this important single issue.

Further, I am in the process of publishing a Newsletter to highlight the Northern Islands' socio-economic potential and provide updates of the Mayor's recent CIP activities and related news. I anticipate to include discussions about the proposed Constitutional Amendments, particularly the provisions affecting the islands north of Saipan. Your response to my request noted above will be included in the newsletter. I am also inviting you to contribute articles or other information about the Northern Islands or about your experience in the 3rd Constitutional Convention with regards to the CNMI's natural resources. I am hoping to complete the newsletter by mid-January of 1996.

Again, I am respectfully requesting your assistance in providing me the specific information noted above. Your continued assistance, cooperation, and understanding is greatly appreciated. If you need further information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. In the meantime, I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



JOSEPH T. OGUMORO

xc: The Honorable Froilan C. Tenorio, Governor, Office of the Governor, Saipan, MP 96950
The Honorable Diego T. Benavente, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Northern Marianas Leg.
The Honorable Juan S. Demapan, Senate President, CNMI Senate, Northern Marianas Legislature
The Honorable Felix R. Nogs, Chairman, Committee on Executive Branch and Local Government, 3rd
Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention
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