



POST CONVENTION COMMITTEE
Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention

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DEC 19 1995

Honorable Joseph T. Ogunoro
Mayor of the Northern Islands
Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands
P. O. Box 2859
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mayor Ogunoro:

Thank you for your letter of December 7, 1995, inquiring about the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention's proposed amendment to Article VI of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All of the records of the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention were promptly delivered to the Commonwealth Archives after the Convention concluded its deliberations in August. The Commonwealth Archives is located at the Northern Marianas College. These records include the reports of the Committee on Executive Branch and Local Government; transcriptions of public hearings, sessions of the Committee of the Whole during which the Committee reports were considered, and sessions of the Convention at which action was taken on first and second reading of the proposed amendments; and the official records of the votes on each proposed amendment by the delegates in attendance.

The Convention wanted to make certain that this complete historical record was promptly assembled and preserved, so that inquiries such as yours could be pursued by the interested parties without any difficulty. I suggest that you or your representative contact Archivist Herbert S. Del Rosario at the College and make arrangements to review the records that relate to the Convention's recommendation regarding the Office of the Mayor for the Northern Islands. These records will enable you to make your own assessment of the Convention's deliberations and recommendation.

As to your last point regarding the form of the amendments to be voted on by the people in March, the format of the proposed amendments was made public several months ago. The 19 proposed amendments, including Amendment 6 covering local government, have been published in both English and Chamorro in several local newspaper. The proposal with respect to the Northern Islands is an integral part of the Convention's other recommendations regarding local government and the Post Convention Committee has been advised by counsel that this format complies fully with all constitutional and other legal requirements. I am enclosing two booklets on the proposed amendments and its analysis and description of changes proposed by the Constitutional Convention. The Carolinian version is not available at this time. Mr. Jesus M. Elameto is doing the translation and will be available early next month.

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I appreciate your invitation to submit an article or information regarding the Northern Islands or the Commonwealth's natural resources for publication in your Newsletter. I will take this up with the Post Convention Committee at its next meeting.

Sincerely,


HERMAN T. GUERRERO
Chair

cc: Post Convention Committee Members