

Office of the Mayor The Northern Islands Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands P.O. Box 2859 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-7392 / 6720 Fax: (670) 233-6466 (NIMO)

JOSEPH T. OGUMORO Mayor of the Northern Islands

January 3, 1996

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

Dear Chairman Guerrero:

Warm greetings to you and your staff!

I am in receipt of your letter, dated December 19, 1995, responding to my concerns about the proposed Constitutional amendments along with complimentary copies of the Proposed Constitution and the Description of Changes. I want to thank you for responding to my letter and for providing my office with the new publication.

I have gone over the amendments again and realized that one important issue was left out in the final print in reference to the proposed transition under Article VI (Local Government). I was provided with draft copies of the convention's deliberation of the Committee of the Whole on July 24th and the Committee meeting of July 25th. In that draft document, I read a provision that states that *"The Mayor of the Northern Islands shall continue in office until the end of his term and the employees of that office shall be transferred to the offices of the Mayor of Saipan and the Northern Islands and the Municipal Council". In the final print, however, the reference to <u>"... and the employees of that office shall be transferred to the offices of the Mayor of Saipan and the Northern Islands and the Municipal Council" were completely deleted.*</u>

Is this a typo error or were there any official discussions and/or deliberation regarding the fate of the employees of the Northern Islands Mayor's Office after the completion of his term? Are the employees going to be transferred to the Saipan and the Northern Islands Mayor's Office or are they going to be

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terminated? How are the affected employees going to be protected by the Civil Service System Regulations with regards to termination of employment since they will fall within the Civil Service System? Was this issue discussed?

I am aware of the transfer of CONCON documents to the CNMI Archives and I am assigning my staff to review the records on this matter. In the interim, however, I am very concern about this matter and, as chairman of the Post-Convention Committee, I am officially requesting your input and response on this issue.

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. OGUMORŎ

xc: The Honorable Froilan C. Tenorio, Governor, Office of the Governor, Saipan, MP 96950 The Honorable Felix R. Nogis, Chairman, Committee on Executive Branch and Local Government, 3rd Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention File