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TO: Alicia Guerrero
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FROM: Howard P. Willens

MESSAGE

Alicia: In case a copy wasn't left for you, here is the proposal from the Variety for ads beginning this Friday. It offers one full page and one-half page on each of 6 days, and reserves the best pages (7) and (9) for our delegates. We think this is a good deal and we should proceed with it.

Two matters for decision: (1) We do not think that Committee should pay for any ad in which a delegate urges voters to vote Yes. Bennet has already approved an ad full page that could run this Friday. She will want to write a check directly to the newspaper. So we need to tell the paper that the ads will be paid for by different persons at different times.

(2) We need to canvas the delegates likely to be interested to see who else wants to use some of this space. If delegate ads cannot fill it, we will prepare some "get out the vote" ads that the Committee could run with minimal criticism.

The Chairman might want to have a committee meeting no later than Wednesday to review this matter and other issues.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE MARIANAS VARIETY

Mr. Woodruff's tedious columns contain many serious errors. Some may be the product of his limited experience as a lawyer; others may reflect his lack of participation in the Convention proceedings and public hearings. Let me point out a few in his most recent articles about proposed Amendment #6 dealing with local government.

1) The delegates did not "enshrine(s) Inos v. Tenorio as constitutional law, effectively making it unreviewable by the CNMI Supreme Court." In fact, the delegates did just the opposite. They deliberately left Section 17 of Article 3 of the Constitution untouched, so that any continued dispute about this poorly drafted section (a product of Mr. Woodruff's 1985 Convention) would be left to the Commonwealth courts. The Analysis makes this quite clear.

2) He completely misunderstands the funding limitations proposed by the delegates in Amendment #6. These limitations do not apply to Commonwealth funds spent on the delivery of Commonwealth public services and the execution of Commonwealth laws in the municipalities under Section 17 of Article 3 as interpreted by the courts. They apply ONLY to the payment of Commonwealth funds for true local government -- as defined by the Mayor and Municipal Council and implemented by their employees.

3) His recommendation of a commission to study local government in the Commonwealth shows his unrealistic and academic approach. Commissions are set up to bury problems --not to solve them. The Convention delegates -- elected at large by the voters -- provided a much better and representative group to address this very sensitive political issue. They did their best and Amendment #6 deserves the support of the voters.

Sincerely,

Possible Articles Based on
Forensic Show

- ① Woodruff's "mye subject" interview - perhaps explain
 (1) not helpful, (2) too complicated & put it off, etc.
 (3) Dependent on his availability -

NO!

refer to
SWS
1975
press

- ② Rely on Dependent to ensure "good" amendments +
 "good" dependent -- ∴ need the
 Leg. Justice -

NO!

- no basis for no dependents, - 1976 Convention did not
mitigate no way rely -
several of these amendments -

// - still be popular (with
* - desired (with
amendments) -

- * ③ #6 - local gov't + Resister
 issue -

2, 13, 18
TV/RADIO

Article re
to #18 -
popular amendment

STAIRWAY
CASE -

CARS
VOTE-COUNTING

MONDAY -
2:00 P.M.

Ken: #6 - local gov
and in the power
to tax -

Ken: say that local gov't
has some tax
powers as the
Carmichael Amendment -

Mike: depends on the
local laws -

John: no limit on the
taxing authority -
Carmichael is steps
quit local gov't

→ even local
resident elect
state personnel
and the point of local
gov't

Steve:)
1818 - amongst what states
the legislative authority
must popular vote to
amend constitution -

part of overall
design to
render the
legislative

Rob: what's the
Ken: Engle
difference bet the 2 houses -
no mid-year
sessions -
A. Dean - note and
is part of -