

September 14, 1993

The Honorable Lorenzo I. De Leon Guerrero
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor De Leon Guerrero:

This is in regard to the submittal of the following question in the upcoming general election: "Shall there be a constitutional convention to propose amendments to the Constitution?" One of the mechanisms provided by the Commonwealth Constitution is legislative action approving the submittal of this question before the voters no later than ten years after the question was last submitted. As you will note, the 1983 general election was the last time this question was submitted for approval by the voters. It is now ten years since that time and as a result, I introduced House Joint Resolution 8-22. The joint resolution was passed by the House on July 9, 1993.

During my talk this week with the Senate President regarding possible Senate action on the joint resolution, he informed me that the Senate will probably not hold a session until after the general election. Senator Demapan suggested that I request your action on this matter pursuant to Section 2(a) of Article XVIII of the Commonwealth Constitution which delegates this authority to the Governor in the event the Legislature fails to act.

The deadline for submitting this question in the upcoming general election is drawing near. I need your response on this matter as soon as possible. For your reference, I am enclosing copies of House Joint Resolution 8-22 and House Joint Resolution 44 (passed by the Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature).

Sincerely,

REP. HERMAN T. GUERRERO

Enclosure