

Ag

GENERAL

August 26, 1971

ST 51 (Micronesia)

**Dear Miss Costello:**

**The President has asked me to thank you for your very thoughtful letter about the Micronesian claims legislation.**

**As you may know, the President signed the Micronesian Claims Act into law on July 1, 1971. The bill was an Administration proposal, and, while the President is pleased by its passage, he is also hopeful that the Congress will act favorably on his other measures to improve conditions in Micronesia.**

**Because of your special interest I am enclosing a copy of the Micronesian Claims Act of 1971. It comes with the President's best wishes for the future.**

**Sincerely,**

**Michael B. Smith  
Staff Assistant**

**Miss Susan K. Costello  
25-09 Crescent Street  
Astoria, New York 11102**

**Enclosure**

**MBS:KJ:cjs - y**

DRAFT

Dear Miss Costello:

*The President has asked me to thank you for your*  
~~This is in response to your letter to President Nixon of~~  
*very thoughtful letter about*  
~~July 29, 1971, regarding recent remarks made by Representative~~  
~~Wayne Hays during debate on the Micronesian claims legislation.~~

As I am sure you recognize, the separation of powers between the Executive and Legislative branches precludes Administration action with respect to statements by Members of Congress.

At the same time, the position of the Administration is clear with respect to the claims legislation, as well as other legislation for the improvement of conditions in Micronesia. The Micronesian claims legislation was an Administration measure and, as you may know, was signed into law by President Nixon on July 1, 1971. A copy of the approved legislation, Public Law 92-39, is enclosed for your interest.

We appreciate your interest in this important matter, and share your desire for continuing harmonious relations between the United States and Micronesia.

Sincerely yours,

Michael B. Smith  
Staff Assistant to the President

Miss Susan K. Costello  
25-09 Crescent Street  
Astoria, New York 11102

Enclosure