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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS LEGISLATURE
P. O. BOX 929
SUSUPE, SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

EXECUTIVE
PR13-1/51
S751

May 11, 1976

RH
encl

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
of America
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

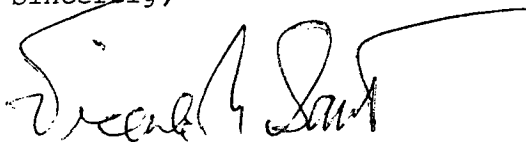
Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of all the people of the Northern Mariana Islands and the members of the Legislature, I wish to present to you Resolution No. 102-1976, a resolution expressing sincere appreciation and gratitude to you for acting favorably on the Covenant to establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, adopted by the Membership April 27, 1976.

We would like to reiterate our deepest and sincere appreciation and gratitude to the people of the United States of America through the President and their elected Representatives for the privilege of being allowed to become a part of the American political family.

Our Warmest "Si Yuus Maase", thank you.

Sincerely,


Vicente N. Santos
Speaker

Attachment: Copy of Res. No. 102-1976.

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FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS LEGISLATURE

EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 102-1976



FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS LEGISLATURE

EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 102-1976
INTRODUCED BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO EXPRESSING SINCERE
APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO THE HONORABLE
GERALD R. FORD, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA FOR ACTING FAVORABLY ON THE COVENANT
TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

WHEREAS, subsequent to the conclusion of negotiations between representatives of the government of the United States and the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, the signed agreement reached during the negotiation

-- A Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America -- was transmitted to the Congress of the United States by President Gerald R. Ford and urged speedy action by the Congress in reviewing and approving the Covenant; and

WHEREAS, on July 24, 1975, the United States House of Representatives after extensive hearings and ample opportunity for all concerned to make known their views relative to the Covenant to Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, passed by unanimous consent and without any objection House Joint Resolution 549; and

WHEREAS, the Senate Interior Committee, as well as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate Armed Services Committee held extensive hearings on the proposed Covenant to Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and again giving full opportunity for all those individuals, groups and other interested persons to make known their views relative to the proposed Covenant; and

WHEREAS, after extensive hearings and full debate, the Senate, on February 24, 1976, passed House Joint Resolution 549 that authorized the establishment of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, minor amendments to House Joint Resolution 549 were concurred on by the United States House of Representatives on March 11, 1976; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 1976, President Gerald R. Ford, in a ceremony held at the White House, signed House Joint Resolution 549 which became P.L. 94-241, established the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, this final act culminates more than a quarter of a century of requests by the people of the Northern Mariana Islands to become a part of the American political family; and

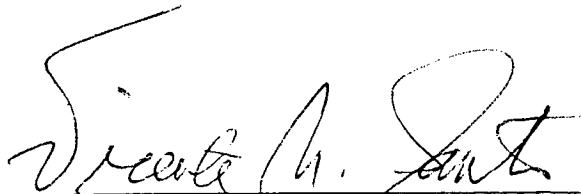
WHEREAS, on for and on behalf of all the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, we, the elected leaders, wish to go on record of expressing our deep and sincere appreciation and gratitude to the people of the United States of America through the President and their elected representatives for the privilege of being allowed to become a part of the American political family;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Fourth Northern Mariana Islands Legislature, Eighth Regular Session, 1976, that sincere appreciation and gratitude of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands be and hereby are expressed to the people of the United States of America for the approval of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Speaker certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and thereafter transmit copies of the same to the President of the United States, President Gerald R. Ford, Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller, Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate, Carl Albert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Phillip Burton, Chairman, Subcommittee on Territorial and Insular Affairs, United States House of Representatives; Henry A. Jackson, Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, John Sparkman, Chairman Foreign Relations; John C. Stennis, Chairman, Senate Committee on Armed Services and Ambassador Franklin Hadyn Williams, the President's Personal Representative for the Micronesian Status Negotiations.

PASSED BY THE FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS LEGISLATURE APRIL 27, 1976.


VICENTE N. SANTOS
Speaker


SANTIAGO B. MAGOFNA
Legislative Secretary

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLAS

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
REFERRAL

Date: May 21, 1976
NSC log # 7602906

MEMORANDUM FOR:

George S. Springsteen
Executive Secretary
Department of State

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

To: Pres
From: Vicente N. Santos
Date: May 11, 1976
Subject: Re Speaker of Legislative of Mariana Expresses Thanks
to Pres for favorable action on Covenant

ACTION REQUESTED:

Draft reply for: President's Signature
 White House Staff
 Other _____
 Direct reply Furnish info copy
 Dispatch Translation
 Recommendations/Comments Appropriate Handling
 Other Information

DUE DATE: May 30, 1976

COMMENTS:



Helene Davis
for Jeanne W. Davis
Staff Secretary

CLASSIFICATION: _____

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