

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 17, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR : THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS TO THE SECTION 902 CONSULTATIONS WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COMMISSION ON FEDERAL LAWS

In your letter to the President of January 11, 1989, you recommended that the following recommendations set forth in Welcoming America's Newest Commonwealth: The Second Interim Report of the Northern Mariana Islands Commission on Federal Laws (1985) be enacted into law:

- (a) to permit residency in the CNMI to satisfy the residency requirement for naturalization;
- (b) to allow nomination of one individual from the CNMI to each U.S. service academy;
- (c) to ensure that the CNMI is considered to be part of the United States for the purposes of U.S. Fishery Trade Officers of the Department of Commerce;
- (d) to allow local churches and charitable organizations to be exempt from the anti-lottery provisions of federal criminal laws;
- (e) to require the Secretary of Education to make a block grant annually to the CNMI to replace various formula and discretionary grants;
- (f) to authorize the Governor to designate a library as a depository for United States Government publications; and
- (g) to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive certain Medicaid requirements for the CNMI.

On May 6, 1989, the President accepted your recommendations with the exception of the Medicaid issue. The Medicaid recommendation was enacted in 1987 and no further legislation is required. The legislative proposals should be submitted for coordination and review in the customary manner.

This action further demonstrates the cooperation and support of the federal government for the CNMI's concerns within the framework of the Covenant Establishing Political Union Between the United States and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

On behalf of the President, best wishes as you continue consultations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Q. Bates". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

David Q. Bates
Assistant to the President and
Secretary to the Cabinet