



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Governor

Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

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REPLY TO:

DEPT. or ACTIVITY

November 3, 1986

The Honorable Julian S. Calvo
Senate President
Fifth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, CM 96950

and

The Honorable Jose R. Lifoifoi
Speaker, House of Representatives
Fifth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, CM 96950

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law Senate Bill No. 5-98, entitled, "To declare November 4 of each year as a legal holiday to be known as Citizenship Day, in recognition of the fact that on that day in 1986 the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America goes into full force and effect and the people of the Northern Mariana Islands become citizens or nationals of the United States, thereby realizing the aspiration of nearly forty years for political self-determination, to repeal and reenact Section 311 of Title 1 of the Commonwealth Code, as amended, and for other purposes," which was passed by the Fifth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill is one of the most significant legislation since the inception of the Commonwealth.


We had anticipated that the Termination of the Trusteeship would take place during 1981. It has been long overdue.

Today marks a milestone in the history as our citizens are now full-fledged citizens or nationals of the United States and are able, for the first time, to receive the benefits contained in the Covenant.

For the reasons, stated above, I am extremely pleased to affix my signature to this bill which will make Citizenship Day a legal holiday in the Northern Mariana Islands.

This bill becomes Public Law No. 5-21. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pedro A. Tenorio", is written over a horizontal line.

PEDRO A. TENORIO
Acting Governor

CC: Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

FIFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

AN ACT

TO DECLARE NOVEMBER 4 OF EACH YEAR AS A LEGAL HOLIDAY TO BE KNOWN AS CITIZENSHIP DAY, IN RECOGNITION OF THE FACT THAT ON THAT DAY IN 1986 THE COVENANT TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA GOES INTO FULL FORCE AND EFFECT THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS BECOME CITIZENS OR NATIONALS OF THE UNITED STATES, THEREBY REALIZING THE ASPIRATION OF NEARLY FORTY YEARS FOR POLITICAL SELF-DETERMINATION, TO REPEAL AND REENACT SECTION 311 OF TITLE 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Offered by Senatos Herman R. Guerrero, Jose P. Mafnas, Manuel P. Villagomez, Juan N. Babauta, Julian S. Calvo, Juan T. Guerrero, Herman M. Manglona Joseph S. Inos and Benjamin T. Manglona

Date: November 3, 1986

SENATE ACTION

Referred to: JGL

First and Final Reading: November 3, 1986

HOUSE ACTION

First and Final Reading: November 3, 1986


SEN. MANUEL P. VILLAGOMEZ
Senate Legislative Secretary

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 1986

AN ACT

To declare November 4 of each year as a legal holiday to be known as Citizenship Day, in recognition of the fact that on that day in 1986 the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America goes into full force and effect and the people of the Northern Mariana Islands become citizens or nationals of the United States, thereby realizing the aspiration of nearly forty years for political self-determination, to repeal and reenact Section 311 of Title 1 of the Commonwealth Code, as amended, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE FIFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 Section 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that November 4 of
2 1986 will be an historic occasion that should be commemorated annually
3 as holiday. On that day, nearly forty years of aspiration by the people
4 of the Northern Mariana Islands to join the American political family as
5 a self-governing Commonwealth, become citizens or nationals of the United
6 States, and end 400 years of foreign domination will finally be realized.
7 This is an event that has been long-awaited and cause for Commonwealth-
8 wide celebration.

9 Section 2. Designation of Legal Holiday. The fourth day of
10 November of each year is hereby declared a legal holiday in the
11 Commonwealth, to be known as Citizenship Day.


12 Section 3. Repeal and Reenactment. Section 311 of Article 1 of
13 Chapter 3 of the General Provisions of Title 1 of the Commonwealth Code,
14 as amended, is repealed and reenacted as follows:

1 "§311. Legal Holidays.

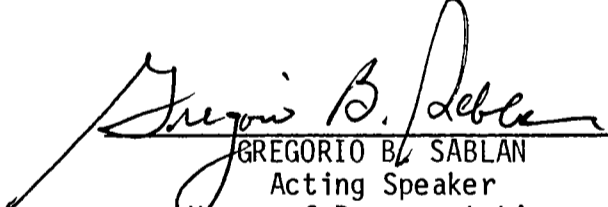
2 The following days of each year are hereby declared as legal
3 holidays within the Commonwealth:

4	New Years Day	January 1
5	Commonwealth Day	January 9
6	President's Day	Third Monday in February
7	Covenant Day	March 24
8	Good Friday	As Designated in the Annual Calendar
9	Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
10	Independence Day	July 4
11	Labor Day	First Monday in September
12	Columbus Day	Second Monday in October
13	Citizenship Day	November 4
14	Veteran's Day	November 11
15	Thanksgiving Day	Fourth Thursday in November
16	Constitution Day	December 8
17	Christmas Day	December 25"

18 Section 4. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its
19 approval by the Governor, or upon its becoming law without such approval.



JOSE P. MAFNAS
Acting President of the Senate



GREGORIO B. SABLAN
Acting Speaker
House of Representatives

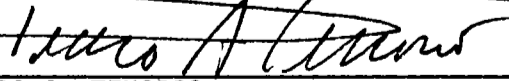


MANUEL P. VILLAGOMEZ
Senate Legislative Secretary

ATTEST:



FRANCES P. SABLAN
House Clerk

APPROVED NOV. 3, 1986


PEDRO A. TENORIO
Acting Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands