

GUAM WOMEN'S CLUB

P. O. Box 454
AGANA, GUAM

July 18, 1961

Honorable Wayne N. Aspinall,
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs,
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Aspinall:

The Governor of Guam, the Honorable Bill Daniel, has by proclamation declared the period July 16 to July 22, 1961 as "Territorial Deputy Week." Accordingly, we of the Guam Women's Club have determined to do what we can to promote the enactment of legislation to provide for such a Territorial Deputy. We have been informed that presently pending before the United States Congress are bills to establish the office of Territorial Deputy for the unincorporated territories of Guam and the Virgin Islands. We are completely in favor of the enactment of such bills to provide for a non-voting representative from this territory to sit in the House of Representatives, and we therefore respectfully request your assistance in the passage of such a statute. As we understand it such a deputy would be entitled to introduce bill, would be entitled to committee membership on committees with cognizance of territorial affairs, although without a vote, would be the official representative of the people of Guam in Washington, and would be elected at large by the qualified voters of the territory. We are also informed that the use of the word "Deputy" rather than "Delegate" or "Resident Commissioner" is to avoid any inference of either statehood or commonwealth for Guam. With this we are also in accord.

Guam is a remote place, admittedly, but since all its residents are citizens of the United States and since it plays an important part in the defense of the free world, we do feel that, in line with traditional American principles of representative government, we are entitled to an official voice in the seat of our government, especially since so much occurs in Washington that has great impact on the territory.

Your assistance in enacting legislation to give the people an

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elected deputy to the United States Congress will be most appreciated by all the residents of this territory. We are grateful for all that you and your committee have done on behalf of Guam in the past and we are confident that under your leadership such a bill will be enacted.

Very truly yours,

M. Larena Anderson
M. LARENA ANDERSON, President

Ida Gibson
IDA GIBSON, Vice President

Cecilia Bamba
CECILIA BAMBA, Treasurer

Mary E. Roth
MARY E. ROTH, Recording Secretary

VIOLET HALE, Corresponding Secretary

Violet Hale
EMILY JOHNSTON, Past President

Madeline Bordallo
MADELEINE BORDALLO, Member