



**RALPH DLG. TORRES**  
Governor

**ARNOLD I. PALACIOS**  
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

January 25, 2019

GOV19-014

The Honorable Gregorio Camacho Sablan  
Congressman  
Congress of the United States  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Sablan:

As you are aware, on December 27, 2018, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced their decision to terminate the humanitarian parole program in the CNMI, impacting hundreds of individuals who have lived and called the CNMI home for years. In a recent call with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Director L. Francis Cissna, he informed me of the administration's interest in securing a legislative remedy that will allow these impacted individuals to remain in the CNMI.

As this is a matter requiring congressional action, I write to you in support of this effort and to request your assistance in working collaboratively with the CNMI Government and the Trump administration to navigate this issue through the United States Congress.

For years, we have discussed the issue of improved status and, on multiple occasions, I have offered my support and assistance in making this long-held goal a reality. Improved status for those previously qualifying for humanitarian parole is just one step. I support efforts to provide improved status for these individuals and for the many qualified individuals who have lived and worked in the CNMI prior to the initiation of the enactment of U.S. Public Law 110-229.

As we enter into the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, the CNMI's representation within the Democrat controlled U.S. House of Representatives grants us the opportune time to make progress toward the completion of this goal. Your role in seeing this goal to a successful outcome is crucial and I offer my support to your efforts in Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ralph DLG. Torres".

**RALPH DLG. TORRES**  
Governor