



League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION TO ADVOCATE FOR PUERTO RICO'S U.S. STATEHOOD

WHEREAS, LULAC is our Nation's oldest, largest, and most respected Hispano/Latino civil rights organization, established in 1929. Our mission is to seek the advancement of Hispanic Americans in the areas of education, employment, and civil rights; and

WHEREAS, LULAC is the biggest and oldest civil rights group in our Nation and defender of Hispanic American citizens like the residents of Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, through the Treaty of Paris of 1898, over one hundred and twenty years ago, Puerto Rico was ceded by Spain and became a colony of the United States of America, subject to Article IV, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution also known as the "Territorial Clause"; and

WHEREAS, in accordance to the Territorial Clause, U.S. Congress enforces unilaterally plenary powers over the colonial territory of Puerto Rico, depriving the American citizens resident in the Island equal civil rights; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2012, the majority of the eligible voters of Puerto Rico—through a Plebiscite—expressed willingly, voluntarily, and overwhelmingly their desire for equal civil rights and determination to end the territorial-colonial relationship with the United States of America. They rejected "*the actual political territorial condition*" with a 53.97% of votes, and supported Statehood as the solution for equality with a 61.16% of votes; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2017 Puerto Ricans ratified the 2012 Plebiscite's results reclaiming once more equal civil rights and supporting Statehood with more than 97% of votes; and

WHEREAS, LULAC and the Chapter of Puerto Rico have approved multiple resolutions supporting and requesting the Federal Government to provide the American citizens and residents of the colonial territory of Puerto Rico the opportunity to live and enjoy equal civil rights like their fellow American citizens from any other State of the Union;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that LULAC actively demand the President and the Congress of the United States of America, in accordance with the will of the People of Puerto Rico (expressed in the Plebiscite of November 6, 2012 and ratified in the Plebiscite of June 11, 2017), to admit Puerto Rico as the Fifty First State of the Nation. In order to solve the lack of equal civil rights of the American citizens and residents of Puerto Rico, LULAC must support any related legislation in the Federal Congress supporting Statehood.

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2018 LULAC National Convention on July 21, 2018.

Domingo Garcia
LULAC National President