



League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE PUERTO RICO ADMISSION ACT OF 2018, H.R. 6246

WHEREAS, LULAC is the 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, Puerto Ricans have been U.S. citizens for more than a century as a result of President Woodrow Wilson's approval of the Jones Act in March of 1917. Notwithstanding, the American citizens residing in Puerto Rico do not share equal rights to those enjoyed by today's citizens of the continental United States due to Puerto Rico's status as a territory. Resultantly, Puerto Ricans endure a second-class citizenship status with a lack of representation in both chambers of the U.S.'s Congress, and in the executive branch due to an inability to vote; and

WHEREAS, just as it was a centuries old struggle for African-Americans and for women to have full access to all rights and obligations promised to American Citizens, including the right to vote and to have political representation in the political branches of the Government, so too has been the case with respect to our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, on both November 6, 2012, and June 11, 2017, the people of Puerto Rico declared their desire to be admitted to the United States as the 51st State of the Union plainly and loudly through a legitimate exercise of their right to political self-determination; and

WHEREAS, In fact, 97 percent of the voters chose statehood on a ballot amended to specifically comply with the United States Department of Justice requirements; and

WHEREAS, in response to the June 11, 2017 referendum, LULAC passed a resolution on July 8, 2017 at its National Convention in San Antonio, Texas in support of Statehood for Puerto Rico to end the current state of affairs because "it's morally and legally wrong for the United States of America, the democratic leader of the world, to maintain 3.3 million U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico deprived of their full-fledged U.S. citizen rights"; and

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2018, Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon, Puerto Rico's Resident Commissioner in the U.S. House of Representatives and sole representative in Congress, introduced H.R. 6246, *the Puerto Rico Admission Act of 2018*; and

WHEREAS, the Puerto Rican Admission Act of 2018 is a major first step towards realizing the democratic will of the U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico by setting forth a transition process that would result in the formal admission of Puerto Rico as a State in the Union on an equal footing and in true permanent union with the other States in all respects, effective no later than January 1st, 2021; and

WHEREAS, LULAC, the Nation's largest and oldest civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers Hispanic Americans, fully supports self-determination for the People of Puerto Rico that already decided their ultimate political status towards statehood;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that LULAC hereby reaffirms its support of the Government of Puerto Rico and the Puerto Rican people's efforts towards attaining statehood, as was the will of the Puerto Rican electorate expressed through their suffrage on both November 6, 2012 and on June 11, 2017 by strongly supporting the passage of the Puerto Rico Admission Act of 2018, H.R. 6246. With this, LULAC demands that the 115th Congress makes Puerto Rico the 51st state of the United States of America; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be sent to:

1. Hon. Donald Trump, President of the United States
2. Hon. Michael Pence, Vice President of the United States
3. Hon. Paul Ryan, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives
4. Hon. Kevin McCarthy, U.S. House Majority Leader
5. Hon. Steve Scalise, U.S. House Majority Whip
6. Hon. Nancy Pelosi, U.S. House Minority Leader
7. Hon. Steny Hoyer, U.S. House Minority Whip
8. Hon. Mitch McConnell, U.S. Senate Majority Leader
9. Hon. John Cornyn, U.S. Senate Majority Whip
10. Hon. Charles E. Schumer, U.S. Senate Minority Leader
11. Hon. Richard Durbin, U.S. Senate Minority Whip
12. Hon. Jimmy Gomez, U.S. House of Representatives
13. Hon. José A. Serrano, U.S. House of Representatives
14. Hon. Luis Gutiérrez, U.S. House of Representatives
15. Hon. Daren Soto, U.S. House of Representatives
16. Hon. Nydia Velázquez, U.S. House of Representatives
17. Hon. Grace Napolitano, U.S. House of Representatives
18. Hon. Mario Díaz-Balart, U.S. House of Representatives
19. Hon. Raúl Grijalva, U.S. House of Representatives
20. Hon. Linda Sánchez, U.S. House of Representatives
21. Hon. Henry Cuellar, U.S. House of Representatives
22. Hon. John Lewis, U.S. House of Representatives
23. Hon. Ben Ray Luján, U.S. House of Representatives
24. Hon. Cedric L. Richmond, U.S. House of Representatives
25. Hon. Bill Flores, U.S. House of Representatives
26. Hon. André Carson, U.S. House of Representatives
27. Hon. Anthony Brown, U.S. House of Representatives
28. Hon. Tony Cárdenas, U.S. House of Representatives
29. Hon. Joaquín Castro, U.S. House of Representatives
30. Hon. Michelle Lujan Grisham, U.S. House of Representatives
31. Hon. Raul Ruiz, U.S. House of Representatives
32. Hon. Juan Vargas, U.S. House of Representatives
33. Hon. Filemón Vela, U.S. House of Representatives
34. Hon. Pete Aguilar, U.S. House of Representatives
35. Hon. Carlos Curbelo, U.S. House of Representatives
36. Hon. Ruben Gallegos, U.S. House of Representatives
37. Hon. Alex Mooney, U.S. House of Representatives

38. Hon. Norma Torres, U.S. House of Representatives
39. Hon. Nanette Barragán, U.S. House of Representatives
40. Hon. Salud Carbajal, U.S. House of Representatives
41. Hon. Lou Correa, U.S. House of Representatives
42. Hon. Adriano Espaillat, U.S. House of Representatives
43. Hon. Vicente González, U.S. House of Representatives
44. Hon. Rubén Kihuen, U.S. House of Representatives
45. Hon. Brian Mast, U.S. House of Representatives
46. Hon. Darren Soto, U.S. House of Representatives
47. Hon. Jenniffer González, U.S. House of Representatives
48. Hon. Robert Menendez, U.S. Senate
49. Hon. Marco Rubio, U.S. Senate
50. Hon. Ted Cruz, U.S. Senate
51. Hon. Catherine Cortez Masto, U.S. Senate
52. Hon. Ricardo Rosselló, Governor of Puerto Rico

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

Domingo Garcia
LULAC National President