



## *League of United Latin American Citizens*

### **RESOLUTION TO REQUEST WITHOUT DELAY LULAC NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR PUERTO RICO ADMISSION ACT OF 2019 INTRODUCED BY US REPRESENTATIVE DAREN SOTO**

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of the Hispanic population of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Puerto Rico became a territory of the United States of America as a result of the Spanish American War of 1898; and,

**WHEREAS**, Puerto Rico residents became US citizens over 100 years ago with the approval of the Jones-Shafroth Act of 1917; and

**WHEREAS**, for over one hundred years the civil rights of the 3.5 million US citizens living in Puerto Rico have been violated by denying equality and representation, by not affording them the right to vote for the US President and not allowing voting representation in Congress where decisions are made that impact them, thus treating Puerto Ricans like second class citizens; and,

**WHEREAS**, the US citizens living in Puerto Rico are demanded to serve in the US Armed Forces and pay Social Security and Medicare BUT when it is time to receive Social Security and Medicare these benefits are reduces compared to benefits received by citizens living in the 50 US States; and,

**WHEREAS**, the federal administration response to the devastation caused by Hurrican Maria was inadequate and slow compared to the response to other states that suffered natural disasters; and,

**WHEREAS**, Puerto Rico's electorate has historically and consistently rejected Independence from the US as a political status; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court of the United States decision that the Commonwealth also called "Free Associated State" is a non-status and therefore unconstitutional; and

**WHEREAS**, the electorate living in the US territory of Puerto Rico has voted for statehood in the last two plebiscites of 2012 amd 2017;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Florida League of United Latin American Citizens supports US Representative Daren Soto's Puerto Rico Admission Act of 2019 and requests that LULAC National do same so that Puerto Rico becomes the 51<sup>st</sup> state of the US; and

**BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED** that LULAC National support statehood of the US territory of Puerto Rico by supporting not only the Puerto Rico Admission Act of 2019 but also any other similar petitions for statehood in the near future.

Submitted by Dr. Lydia Medrano, Florida District 1 Director and Past National Vice President for the Southeast Region and Member of LULAC Florida Council 7252.

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2019 LULAC National Convention on July 13, 2019.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Domingo Garcia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Domingo" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Garcia".

Domingo Garcia  
LULAC National President