



**PuertoRicoUSA.com**

Voice for continued and improved relationship between Puerto Rico and USA.

**Puerto Rico-USA Foundation**

**P.O. Box 19371 San Juan, Puerto Rico 00910-1371**

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**PETITION TO THE U.S. CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO CERTIFY WITH A JOINT RESOLUTION PUERTO RICO AS AN INCORPORATED TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES**

- WHEREAS:** Puerto Rico became a United States of America territory in 1898 by the Treaty of Paris, which provided that: "... *the civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories hereby ceded to the United States shall be determined by Congress.*" Immediately the native inhabitants became Nationals under the Custody and "*Parens Patriae*" of the United States of America.
- WHEREAS:** Since 1917, the United States American Citizens of Puerto Rico have demonstrated their loyalty to the United States of America and to democracy by serving with dedication and honor in all armed conflicts in the Armed Forces of our Country, without the right to vote for their Commander in Chief, including many of them giving the ultimate sacrifice dying in the defense of our flag.
- WHEREAS:** In 1917, the residents of Puerto Rico were granted United States American citizenship, by their own free and voluntary election, and after 1941 by birth, as disposed by Congress, enacting laws to such effect. To this date, three and a half million United States American Citizens reside in Puerto Rico and four million have moved their residence to the mainland, where they have enjoyed full citizenship and are working in building our Nation and Making America Great Again.
- WHEREAS:** In 1952, the United States American Citizens of Puerto Rico constituted themselves into a Republican form of government in compliance with Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution of the United States of America, similarly as the process used for former territories to become states of the Nation. In the Puerto Rico Constitution of 1952, the citizens by direct vote swore their loyalty to their American citizenship, to the Constitution of United States of America and accepted to be under the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution, with reference to the National Government as are states under federalism.
- WHEREAS:** The United States American Citizens of Puerto Rico are subject to the jurisdiction of all three Branches of the Government of the United States of America. The Puerto Federal Court system is authorized and consistent with Article III of the U.S. Constitution.
- WHEREAS:** All income from sources outside of Puerto Rico are subject to federal taxation, and the United States American Citizens residing in Puerto Rico contribute billions of dollars to the Federal Treasury. The United States American Citizens residing in Puerto Rico pay more in federal taxes than residents of several states.
- WHEREAS:** In the quadrennial elections, held since 1964, ninety five percent (95%) or more of the voters have chosen permanent union with the United States of America. The independence status has been rejected by the voters to such an extent that the Independence Party has been politically disqualified several times in quadrennial elections.
- WHEREAS:** Two of the local political parties, supported by more than ninety six percent (96%) of the total voters, participate in National Politics as members of the Republican and Democratic Parties.
- WHEREAS:** The Government of the United States of America has been actively promoting democracy, universal suffrage, and human rights all over the world. (Presently actively in Afghanistan, Venezuela and other countries around the world).
- WHEREAS:** The Constitution of the United States of America has been judicially applied to the United States American Citizens of Puerto Rico as if it were a state, but the non-incorporation status is being used



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by the Federal Courts and by Congress to switch "on and off" the applicability of the U.S. Constitution discriminatorily, costing more than five billion dollars annually in federal transfers.

**WHEREAS:** Puerto Rico is a de facto incorporated territory of the United States of America, because since 1898 it has been gradually moved to be legally treated and assimilated like a state more than any other U.S. Territory before being certified as incorporated. Moreover, the degree of incorporation of Puerto Rico to be like a state can be considered by implication as strong as to exclude any other view than that of being an incorporated territory of the United States.

**WHEREAS:** Since early in the century, Puerto Rico has existed under the unfair and extremely discriminatory Supreme Court decisions known as the INSULAR CASES. By following these decisions and molding new legislation to conform to these cases, Puerto Rico's economic development and improved quality of life has been crippled by these old unfair decisions which were not applicable to any of the other 50 states. By being subject to the Insular Cases, residents of Puerto Rico have always had a second-class citizenship without the full protection of the U.S Constitution.

**WHEREAS:** The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America guarantees the right of United States American Citizens to "... *petition the Government for a redress of grievances* ..." in order to ensure liberty, general welfare, and to protect our rights and privileges as United States of America Citizens.

**WHEREAS:** It is the duty of Congress to protect the constitutional rights of all American citizens, and under Article IV, Section 3.2 of the U.S Constitution to "...make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory". The present degree of legal assimilation of Puerto Rico to the United States under domestic and international law supports this Petition to certify Puerto Rico as an incorporated territory of the United States.

**THEREFORE:**

We, the American Citizens residents of Puerto Rico, respectfully request Congress to adopt a Resolution certifying Puerto Rico as an Incorporated Territory of the United States. Copies of this document will be forwarded to the following Federal and States Public Bodies, and/or other parties:

**President of the United States America**, Hon. Donald Trump; **Vice President of the United States of America**, Hon. Michael R. Pence; **Speaker of the United States of America House of Representatives**, Hon. Nancy Pelosi; **Chairwoman of the Senate Energy Committee**, Hon. Lisa Murkowski, the **Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee**, Hon. Raul M. Grijalva, **Governor of Puerto Rico**, Hon. Wanda Vazquez; and, to the **Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico**, Hon. Jennifer Gonzalez.

Signed this First day of September of the year 2019

John A. Regis, Jr  
President