

U.S. House of Representatives Report 104-713, Part 1, July 26, 1996:

Relying on *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815 (1971) and other Supreme Court rulings interpreting Congressional powers under the Territorial Clause and defining the Constitutional rights and status of persons born in Puerto Rico, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) has concluded that, absent recognition of fully equal citizenship status for people born in the territory protected Constitutionally in the same manner as nationality and citizenship arising from birth in one of the 50 States, the statutory citizenship of the residents of Puerto Rico (now codified at 8 U.S.C. 1402) could be restricted, modified or even withdrawn by Congress as long as the fundamental rights test of the Insular Cases as cited above is met, based on the existence of a legitimate Federal purposes achieved in a manner reasonably related to that purpose. Thus, for example, the CRS legal analysis confirmed that establishment of separate Puerto Rican sovereignty would provide the legal basis for Congress to withdraw statutory citizenship without violating due process. See, Legal Memorandum of John H. Killian, Senior Specialist, American Constitutional Law, CRS, American Law Division, November 15, 1990.