PUERTO RICO STATEHOOD COUNCIL
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Congress Must Act & Resolve Puerto Rico's Political Status

BACKGROUND

- On November 5, 2024, Puerto Rico held a nonbinding plebiscite where **58.61%** of voters rejected the island's current territory status in the general election, and preferred statehood over the other non-territorial options.
- The certified results, issued by the Puerto Rico State Elections Commission (PRSEC), are as follows:
  - ***Statehood***- 620,782 votes (58.61%)
  - ***Independence with Free Association***- 313,259 votes (29.57%)
  - ***Independence***- 125,171 votes (11.82%)
    - ***Voter Turnout***- 63.61%
- The 2024 plebiscite marks the fourth plebiscite this century (following the 2012, 2017, and 2020 plebiscites) where the island's U.S. citizens have consistently voted in favor of statehood as their preferred future political status.

CONGRESSIONAL CONTEXT

- The ballot options in the 2024 plebiscite were derived directly from the ***Puerto Rico Status Act*** (PRSA), H.R. 8393, which passed the U.S. House in the 117th Congress with the White House endorsement in the form of a Statement of Administration Policy.
- The PRSA was reintroduced in the 118th Congress as H.R. 2757, with 102 bipartisan cosponsors in the House, and as S.3231, with 27 cosponsors in the Senate (a historic high).

ADDITIONAL ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

- Puerto Ricans reinforced their mandate for statehood by electing pro-statehood leaders, including Governor Jenniffer González-Colón and pro-statehood majorities in Puerto Rico's House and Senate.
- Notably, the statehood option received more votes than any candidate running for elected office, demonstrating the cross-party support in favor of statehood on the island.

NATIONAL SUPPORT

- National polling indicates that **59% of Americans** favor Puerto Rico's admission as a state.
- PRSC's stateside polling of Hispanic and Puerto Rican communities revealed the following:
  - **68% of Hispanics** support Puerto Rico statehood, **71% among Puerto Ricans**.
  - **56% of Hispanics** are more likely to vote for a candidate for Congress who supports Puerto Rico statehood, reaching **67% among Puerto Ricans**.
- PRSC's island polling of likely voters in Puerto Rico revealed the following:
  - **67% of voters** in Puerto Rico support Puerto Rico statehood.
  - **55% of voters** in Puerto Rico are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports Puerto Rico statehood.

CALL TO ACTION

- We urge Congress to honor the will of the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico by advancing legislation that provides a binding offer of statehood to Puerto Rico.
- Puerto Rican voters have spoken in a free, fair, and secure election.
- Now Congress must act by legislating the means to end Puerto Rico's undemocratic and unequal territory status.