

By: Isaac

H.R. No. 221

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In the plebiscite conducted in June 2017, Puerto
2 Ricans voted overwhelmingly in favor of statehood for the U.S.
3 territory; and

4 WHEREAS, The United States acquired Puerto Rico in 1898,
5 following the Spanish-American War, and the Jones Act of 1917
6 conferred U.S. citizenship on all Puerto Ricans; in 1952, Puerto
7 Rico ratified a constitution, subsequently approved by the U.S.
8 Congress, which states, "We consider as determining factors in our
9 life our citizenship of the United States of America and our
10 aspiration continually to enrich our democratic heritage in the
11 individual and collective enjoyment of its rights and privileges;
12 our loyalty to the principles of the Federal Constitution . . .";
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Over the past century, Puerto Ricans have fought for
15 America in every war, and the territory is extremely well
16 represented in our armed forces today; and

17 WHEREAS, In the June plebiscite, over 97 percent of the
18 voters endorsed statehood; while some of the 2.2 million registered
19 voters joined an organized boycott, turnout still reached
20 approximately 25 percent, an impressive rate for a single-issue,
21 nonbinding referendum; and

22 WHEREAS, Puerto Rican voters have expressed tremendous
23 support for statehood, and the U.S. Congress should respect the
24 clear results of the democratic process; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
2 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby urge the United States
3 Congress to support statehood for Puerto Rico; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk forward official copies of
5 this resolution to the president of the United States, to the
6 president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
7 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
8 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
9 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
10 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.