

City of San Francisco

City and County of San Francisco City Hall

Tails 1 Dr. Carleton B. Goodlen Place

Resolution San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

July 26, 1999 Board of Supervisors—ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yaki, Yee, Ammiano

File Number 991433 Date Passed:

Resolution urging Congress to pass, and the President to pass into law, legislation defining Puerto Rico's status options and authorizing a plebiscite to provide the U.S. Citizens of Puerto Rico the opportunity to make an informed decision regarding the island's future political status.

FILE NO. 991433 _____ RESOLUTION NO. 729-99

[PUERTO RICO]

URGING CONGRESS TO PASS, AND THE PRESIDENT TO PASS INTO LAW, LEGISLATION DEFINING PUERTO RICO'S STATUS OPTIONS, AND AUTHORIZING A PLEBISCITE TO PROVIDE THE U.S. CITIZENS OF PUERTO RICO THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION REGARDING THE ISLAND'S FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS.

WHEREAS, In 1898, Puerto Rico became a territory of the United States as a result of The signing of the Treaty of Paris, which formally ended the Spanish-American War; and, WHEREAS, In 1917, the Jones Act extended United States citizenship to the residents of Puerto Rico but did not provide them with voting representation in the U.S. Congress nor give them the right to vote for president of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Since 1917, two hundred thousand U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico have served valiantly in every conflict in which our nation has fought in defense of democratic principles and self- determination; and,

WHEREAS, We recognize the many social, economic and political contributions the 3.8 million U.S. citizens residing in Puerto Rico make to conserve and enhance this nation's democratic values; and,

WHEREAS, The Bay Area and the State of California have a significant Puerto Rican population; and,

WHEREAS, In 1997, the Legislature of Puerto Rico formally petitioned the U.S. Congress government to respond to the democratic aspirations of the American citizens of Puerto Rico by means of a federally sanctioned plebiscite to be held no later than 1998; and,

WHEREAS, 1998, the one-hundredth year of U.S. troops on the coasts of Puerto Rico, passed without a Congressional response to the Puerto Rico Legislature's petition; and,

WHEREAS, As we approach the new millennium, we recognize that the time has come for Puerto Rico to have the opportunity to express itself regarding its desire to attain full self- government within the context of a Congressionally authorized plebiscite; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges the Congress to pass, and the President to sign into law, legislation that would define the status options available and authorize a plebiscite to provide an opportunity for the U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico to make an informed decision regarding the island's future political status.

SUPERVISOR BECERRIL
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

File No. 991433 I hereby certify that the forgoing Resolution

was ADOPTED on July 26, 1999 by the

Board of Supervisors of the City and County

of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young

Clerk of the Board

AUG-6 1999

Date Approved Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

File No .991433

City and County of San Francisco

Tails Report