

Republican National Hispanic Assembly

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR A CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED SELF-DETERMINATION PROCESS FOR PUERTO RICO

WHEREAS, Puerto Rico in 1998 will have been a territory of the United States for one hundred years; and

WHEREAS, the 3.8 million United States citizens of Puerto Rico have contributed immeasurably to the Nation in cultural, social, economic, and political terms; and

WHEREAS, Puerto Rico has rallied to the Nation's defense in every major international military conflict in this century, with a great many of its citizens making the ultimate sacrifice for Democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Republican Party Platform as well as every Republican President since Dwight D. Eisenhower has supported granting the United States citizens of Puerto Rico the opportunity to exercise the right of political self-determination that their fellow Americans in the fifty states enjoy; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Assembly hereby expressed its unqualified support for H.R. 856, the United States-Puerto Rico Political Status Act as introduced by House Resources Committee Chairman Don Young (R-AK), and for S.472, the Puerto Rico Self-Determination Act of 1997, as introduced by Senator Larry E. Craig (R-ID); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Assembly calls upon all Republicans in Congress to support these measures and urges the Leadership of the House and Senate to dedicate their efforts to have these measures approved this year by overwhelming majorities in Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of this Assembly will make the enactment of this legislation a matter of the highest priority

Presented by Antonio Monroig
Passed on April 26, 1997
1997 National Convention



Republican National Hispanic Assembly

RESOLUTION #4

A resolution presented by the RNHA of Virginia

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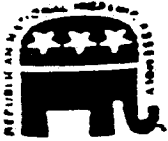
WHEREAS, the Republican Party Platform as well as every Republican President since Dwight D. Eisenhower has supported granting the United States citizens of Puerto Rico the opportunity to exercise the right of political self-determination that their fellow Americans in the fifty states enjoy; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Assembly hereby expressed its unqualified support for H.R. 856, the United States-Puerto Rico Political Status Act as introduced by House Resources Committee Chairman Don Young (R-AK), and for S.42, the Puerto Rico self-determination Act of 1997, as introduced by Senator Larry E. Craig (R-ID); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Assembly calls upon all Republicans in Congress to support these measures and urges the Leadership of the House and Senate to dedicate their efforts to have these measures approved this year by overwhelming majorities in Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVE, that the members of this Assembly will make the enactment of this legislation a matter the highest priority.

Presented by Antonio Monroig



Republican National Hispanic Assembly

July 15, 1997

Jose Rivera
National Chairman

The Honorable Richard K. Armey
U.S. House of Representatives
301 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Armey:

On behalf of all Republican Hispanics in our Nation, I am writing to urge your support for H.R. 856, the "United States-Puerto Rico Political Status Act," which would facilitate a process of self-determination for the 3.8 million American citizens residing in Puerto Rico.

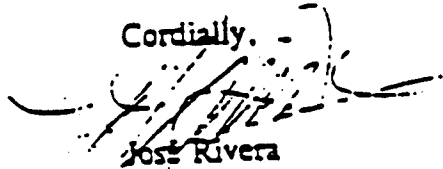
Next year will mark the one hundredth anniversary of Puerto Rico becoming a part of the United States. In that time, Puerto Rico has made vast contributions to this Nation, including the service of men and women in the armed forces of the United States both in peacetime and in war.

There can be no more appropriate way for Congress to celebrate this important anniversary than to provide the American citizens of Puerto Rico with a means to exercise the right of self-determination - a right that virtually all other Americans take for granted every day. In fact, during the 100 years of Puerto Rico's relationship with the United States, there has not been one single Congressionally-mandated vote on Puerto Rico's political status.

We in the Republican Hispanic community believe that H.R. 856 sends a clear message that this Nation believes in extending the ideals of democracy to *all* of our citizens. In doing this, we understand that Congress is allowing our fellow American citizens in Puerto Rico to empower themselves by indicating their preference in political status.

Support of H.R. 856 will demonstrate to the Hispanic American community, the fastest growing minority in the U.S., that their voice will be consistent with ongoing Republican Party efforts to reach out to the Hispanic community. To that end, the Republican National Hispanic Assembly approved a resolution at its Annual Convention in April, which calls for the bill's prompt enactment. In addition, the Young Republican National Federation also approved a resolution during their Bi-Annual Convention in July in support of this legislation. I have attached copies of both Resolutions for your perusal. As H.R. 856 moves to the House Floor in the coming weeks, we hope to count on your support for this bill, which is of vital importance to Republican Hispanics.

Cordially,


Jose Rivera
Chairman

Attachments