



Fred for US
Fred Costello for Congress Republican

FRED COSTELLO: IT'S PAST TIME FOR CONGRESS TO AUTHORIZE A VOTE ON STATEHOOD FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PUERTO RICO

"America is not about where you're from, it's about what you strive to become."

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 4, 2018

CONTACT: VIC BAKER vic@fred4us.com 716-471-2924

Fred Costello, a Republican candidate for Congress in Florida's 6th District, is proposing Congress authorize a binding plebiscite for the residents of Puerto Rico to determine their own future regarding statehood.

Costello said: **"America is not about where you're from, it's about what you strive to become."**

"This is a matter of fundamental fairness as we approach the 242nd anniversary of America's Declaration of Independence from colonial rule. The residents of Puerto Rico deserve the same full rights of American citizenship enjoyed by more than 326 million fellow Americans living in our fifty states," Costello added.

American troops first raised Old Glory claiming the former Spanish colony on October 18, 1898. Nearly two decades later, President Woodrow Wilson signed the Jones-Shafroth Act, granting Puerto Ricans U.S. citizenship in 1917. Many Puerto Rican soldiers have fought for our country and have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

But more than a century later, more than 3 million residents of the Commonwealth Territory are still denied a full voice in our political system. Although they are American citizens, they cannot elect members of Congress or vote for the President of the United States while residing on the island.

Costello said: "The residents of Puerto Rico deserve the right to determine their own destiny. After more than a century as a territory of the United States and more than 500 years under colonial rule, it's time for Congress to stop treating our Puerto Rican neighbors like second class citizens. Let Puerto Rico vote on statehood."

Fred stands 4 US. That means all of us. "This is not about political parties or the calculus of winning elections," he said. "It's about equal rights for all Americans."