



H.R. 6246 – Puerto Rico Admission Act of 2018

Statehood: the *conservative* solution for Puerto Rico.

Why conservatives support statehood.

Puerto Rico residents are American citizens. Providing the territory with a path to statehood will benefit both the island and the U.S. at large.

American Values

Over 20 island-wide studies have consistently shown that the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico hold religiously, socially, and fiscally conservative American values. Puerto Ricans:

- ★ support traditional American family values,
- ★ elect GOP leaders,
- ★ serve in the U.S. military,
- ★ and support economically conservative policies.

Economic Potential

Statehood is the pro-growth solution for Puerto Rico and the U.S. at large. Statehood will position the island for tremendous economic growth, without additional federal investment.

Did You Know? The most recent territories to become states — Hawaii and Alaska — averaged double-digit economic growth for more than a decade after admission.

National Security

The State Department and USAID agree that the Caribbean is vital to U.S. national security. Puerto Rico is a strategic stronghold for the U.S., serving as our nation’s “third border” in the Caribbean.

Post-Statehood Outlook: Puerto Rico will possess the same resources the U.S.’s border states have today, allowing it to serve as the national security hub for our nation’s Caribbean strategy.

Why now?

Individuals and businesses on the island face devastating hurdles that do not exist in the states. Recently, the federal government – and the American taxpayer – have been forced to step in as Puerto Rico faced crippling economic and natural disaster-induced devastation.

900,000

American citizens of Puerto Rico have left the island for the states in the past decade

\$72 Billion

in Puerto Rican debt

\$95 Billion

in projected 2017 hurricane season damages

The Puerto Rico Admission Act would end this dive, placing Puerto Rico and America at large on a path toward prosperity, national security, and true American values.



The Puerto Rico Admission Act

The solution is clear: **Puerto Rico needs a pathway to statehood.**

Every U.S. president from Harry Truman to Donald Trump has stated that Puerto Rico should have the political status preferred by its people. And the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico – both living on the island and the mainland – overwhelmingly agree on **statehood**.



of Puerto Ricans voted for statehood in 2017



of Republican Puerto Rican voters in the swing districts of Central Florida support statehood



of Republican Puerto Rican voters in the swing districts of Central Florida rank statehood as a top priority

Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colon introduced **H.R. 6246, The Puerto Rico Admission Act of 2018** to provide Puerto Rico with a pathway to statehood that would establish Puerto Rico as an important national security stronghold in the Caribbean, thriving economy, and conservative voice in the Union.

The Puerto Rico Admission Act would:

1. Create a transition process that would admit Puerto Rico to the Union on equal footing with other states by January 1, 2021.
2. Establish a bipartisan and bicameral *Congressional Task Force on the Equality for the United States Citizens of Puerto Rico*.

The Task Force would provide recommendations – upon which Congress would enact legislation – for:

- ★ Modifying U.S. laws to phase-in equal treatment of Puerto Rico
- ★ Providing temporary economic incentives to assist Puerto Rico's transition from a territory to a state
- ★ Creating timelines and rules guiding the election of federal offices
- ★ Studying the best approach for the reapportioning or adding voting seats to the U.S. House of Representatives

Learn more about the *conservative* solution for Puerto Rico:

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