



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 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**.

97%

of Puerto Ricans
voted for statehood in
2017

76%

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

85%

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

- 1.** Congress must pass legislation that would allow Puerto Rico to become a state on terms defined by Congress if the people of Puerto Rico approve statehood.
- 2.** Puerto Rico must host a vote on statehood to remove any doubt of Puerto Rico residents' sentiment. It should be a simple vote asking: *"Do you approve Puerto Rico's admission as a state of the union on equal footing with all other states, and with equal rights and duties of state and national citizens?"*

If election results favor statehood:

- ★ Puerto Rico residents must be allowed to elect U.S. Senate and House of Representatives members, and the President must issue a proclamation officially declaring Puerto Rico a state.
- ★ An appropriate process for resolving any conflicts between federal and existing territorial law must be implemented.

Learn more about the *conservative* solution for Puerto Rico

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