

(Your Address)

(Representative/Senator's Address)

(Date)

Dear (Representative/Senator):

As one of your constituents I am writing to let you know that I am a supporter of Statehood for Puerto Rico. Like millions of other Americans throughout the 50 states I too wish to see an end to the unacceptable and unrepresentative political status arrangement and the structure that is currently in place. It is clear that we are perpetuating a colonial situation that flies in the face of the principles of our great democracy. I urge your unyielding support and acceptance of Statehood for Puerto Rico and the implementation of a fully democratic self-determination process for the island and its residents.

Importantly, Statehood will bring an overdue end to the second-class citizenship that the 3.9 million citizen-residents of Puerto Rico, our fellow U.S. citizens, have endured for decades. Statehood will ensure full and equal political and civil rights and responsibilities for our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico which the current undemocratic status does not provide and cannot guarantee. Assimilation is not a Puerto Rico issue. Puerto Rico has been U.S. soil since 1898. Puerto Ricans are already Americans and have been U.S. citizens since 1917.

Puerto Rico and millions of Puerto Ricans have demonstrated and proven time and again that they have earned the right to expect full congressional representation and equal political, civil and economic rights. They have made highly significant contributions to our country and throughout our society, as Americans, since the first days of our relationship, including the areas of science, business, education, the arts, health, sports, public and national service and in blood sacrifice in every conflict our nation has been involved since 1917 and World War I. The Puerto Rican commitment to our country is well documented. Today, we need only look at the large numbers of Puerto Ricans in our active-duty Armed Forces. As further evidence of this, the number of citizen-soldiers, members of the Reserve forces and National Guard in Puerto Rico, is still today proportionately amongst the highest in the country.

I urge you to act and support legislation that will enable and provide Statehood for Puerto Rico. A distinct democratic process of self-determination for Puerto Rico is needed. Thank you for supporting equal citizenship and equal rights for all Americans and Statehood for Puerto Rico. Thank you for accepting Puerto Rico as a full and equal state of the union. Our fellow U.S. citizens, the almost 4 million citizen-residents of Puerto Rico deserve no less.

Sincerely,

(Name/Signature)