



## **DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM COMMITS TO RESOLVING THE TERRITORIAL STATUS OF PUERTO RICO**

In a unanimous vote, the Platform Committee adopted the following commitment to Puerto Rico:

"Democrats recognize that the people of Puerto Rico have earned and deserve to resolve the political status question. For this reason, Democrats support the enactment of the Puerto Rico Status Act (H.R.2757/S.3231) and promote the full civic and political representation for Puerto Ricans.

We will work to end its unequal treatment by the federal government and fight to provide equal access to federal programs like Medicaid, SNAP, and the CTC.

Democrats reject Trump's failed response to Hurricane Maria, which devastated Puerto Rico, and will ensure that the federal government's response to disasters in Puerto Rico is as urgent as it would be anywhere else in the country. When disaster does strike, we will speed access to recovery funds to help rebuild. We will build on the Administration's investments to invest further in infrastructure, economic development, education, healthcare, housing, energy, and climate resilience. We will help restructure Puerto Rico's debt to relieve its debt burden and work to dissolve the Financial Oversight and Management Board."

The Puerto Rico Status Act was filed under H.R.2757 and S.3231 bills in both chambers of Congress with substantial Democratic sponsors. It provides for a federally mandated and binding plebiscite to resolve Puerto Rico's political status among non-territorial options: Statehood, Independence, and Sovereignty in Free Association with the United States.

Charles Rodríguez, Chairman of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico, described the approval of the Democratic Platform Committee's proposal as an excellent achievement for Puerto Rico. Rodríguez emphasized that "while the Republican Party eliminates statehood from its platform and subjects us to the perpetuity of colonial commonwealth, the Democratic Party recognizes that Puerto Ricans have earned and deserve to resolve their territorial status and is committed to legislating a federal plebiscite with non-territorial options to implement the majority will of our people in favor of statehood."

Rodriguez praised Luis Davila Pernas and Rosemarie Vizacarrondo, members from Puerto Rico on the Platform committee, for their work in getting the new Democratic proposal for Puerto Rico passed.