



Tammy Rowe, Clerk to the Board, 400 South Street • P.O. Box 999, Titusville, Florida 32781-0999

Telephone: (321) 637-2001
Fax: (321) 264-6972
Tammy.Rowe@brevardclerk.us

July 12, 2017

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: John Tobia, District 3 Commissioner

RE: Item I.B., Resolution Requesting the United States Congress to Refrain from Extending Statehood to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on July 11, 2017, denied request for resolution requesting the United States Congress to refrain from extending Statehood to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Your continued cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Tammy Rowe

Tammy Rowe, Deputy Clerk

/ds

Resolution 17-____

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT CONGRESS REFRAIN FROM EXTENDING STATEHOOD TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO

WHEREAS, the people of Puerto Rico have contributed greatly to the heritage and security of the Nation

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is \$123 billion in debt, including a \$74 billion debt burden, and a \$49 billion pension burden which is approximately 1.57% funded

WHEREAS, Puerto Rico's debt crises is, in large part, a result of socializing private industry

WHEREAS, the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority alone has incurred more than \$9 billion of debt, while at the same time becoming "archaic," according to Puerto Rico's May 5, 2017 bankruptcy filing in the US District Court for the District of Puerto Rico

WHEREAS, Puerto Rico's debt as a percentage of aggregate income was 100.7% as of 2012, compared to the U.S. average of 16.8%

WHEREAS, the *Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act* ("PROMESA") was passed into Federal law in June of 2016, with the support of the government of Puerto Rico, in an attempt to allow Puerto Rico to independently become sustainable

WHEREAS, Puerto Rico used the power granted to them under PROMESA to declare bankruptcy in Federal Court, and the case remains active

WHEREAS, the burdens placed on federal taxpayers to remedy the decades of mismanagement and socialization by the government of Puerto Rico would be untenable

WHEREAS, the June 11, 2017 referendum on Puerto Rico's statehood had a participation rate of only 23%, the lowest turnout of any election in Puerto Rico since 1967

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY FLORIDA does hereby request that the United States Congress refrain from extending Statehood to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED, in regular session, this 11th day of July, A.D., 2017.

ATTEST:

SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

As approved by Board '7/11/17