



CIVIL RIGHTS
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LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS
NEW MEXICO STATE OFFICE
P.O. Box 1324 Las Cruces, NM 88004

RESOLUTION

Support for Puerto Rico LULAC Self Determination

***Introduced by NM LULAC State Director, Pablo A. Martinez and NM District I
Director, Ralph Arellanes***

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens is the nation's oldest and largest Latino membership organization and since its inception has fostered higher education and the advancement of all Hispanics at all levels and facets of our American society; and

WHEREAS, the state of Nuevo Mexico was finally granted statehood in January of 1912, after sixty four (64) years of struggle for self determination. This was attributed to the fact that the United States Congress refused to accept or allow Nuevo Mexico statehood because of the majority of her residents and elected officials where Hispanos; and

WHEREAS, Nuevo Mexico was a Spanish speaking territory that at one time encompassed all of Arizona, part of southern Nevada, Utah, Colorado and far-west Texas, in which many of the her citizens where granted citizenship under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo; and

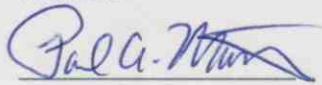
WHEREAS, upon ratification of statehood in 1912, the constitution of Nuevo Mexico granted equal protection of both language, land, heritage, customs, tradition and culture. These constitutional guarantees provided that the Spanish language would be treated with perfect equality and today Nuevo Mexico is the only state in the union that is a constitutionally mandated bi-lingual state; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Puerto Rico have a similar situation in their quest for self determination and because of our culture and language, Puerto Rico and Nuevo Mexico share a common bond and an almost identical circumstances; and

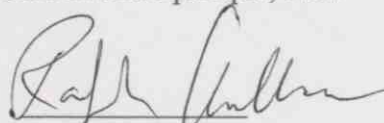
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the League support the citizens of Puerto Rico in their quest for self determination and granted statehood if this is the will and desire of the majority of her populace, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that if the citizens of Puerto Rico so desire statehood, that all of their constitutional guarantees be protected and that their language and culture be respected like that in the state of Nuevo Mexico. Moreover, that the current Puerto Rican Constitution be protected with regards to land, customs, history, heritage, language and cultural practices.

Executed, this 30 day of June 2007, at the LULAC State Board in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



State Director



State Secretary

Rosa Rosales
LULAC NAT. President
7/14/07