

100TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1182

To provide for a referendum in Puerto Rico on the admission of Puerto Rico into the Union as a State.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 12 (legislative day, MAY 8), 1987

Mr. DOLE (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. SIMON, and Mr. MATSUNAGA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide for a referendum in Puerto Rico on the admission of Puerto Rico into the Union as a State.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds that—

5 (1) States have been admitted to the Union only
6 after residents of the proposed States have requested
7 statehood;

8 (2) residents of Puerto Rico have been given only
9 one opportunity, in 1967, to determine for themselves

1 whether they wish Puerto Rico to be admitted to the
2 Union as a State; and

3 (3) as citizens of the United States, residents of
4 Puerto Rico should be allowed to express themselves
5 once again on being admitted to the Union.

6 **SEC. 2. REFERENDUM**

7 (a) Upon the call of the Governor of Puerto Rico, an
8 islandwide referendum shall be held in Puerto Rico in order
9 to enable the qualified voters of the Commonwealth of Puerto
10 Rico to vote for admission of Puerto Rico into the Union.
11 The referendum shall occur no earlier than January 1, 1989,
12 and not later than December 31, 1994. In the referendum
13 the qualified electors of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
14 shall vote for the adoption or rejection of the following propo-
15 sition: "Shall Puerto Rico be admitted into the Union as a
16 State?"

17 (b) The returns of the referendum held under this Act
18 shall be made to the Governor of Puerto Rico, who shall
19 cause them to be canvassed in the manner provided by law
20 for the canvass of votes cast in general elections in the Com-
21 monwealth of Puerto Rico. If a majority of the qualified
22 voters voting in a referendum under this Act vote in favor of
23 admission into the Union, the Governor shall certify to the
24 President and the Congress of the United States the decision
25 of the people of Puerto Rico.

1 (c) The election laws of the Commonwealth of Puerto
2 Rico shall apply to the referendum held under this Act. The
3 Governor of Puerto Rico shall prescribe such regulations
4 governing the conduct of the referendum under this Act as
5 may be necessary to supplement such laws in order to carry
6 out this Act.

7 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such
9 sums as may be necessary for defraying the direct costs of
10 conducting the referendum provided for in this Act.

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