

67TH CONGRESS,  
2D SESSION.

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# S. 3137.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 3 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 10), 1922.

Mr. KING introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Territories and Insular Possessions.

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## A BILL

To declare the purpose of the people of the United States as to the political status of the people of Porto Rico, and to provide an autonomous government for the said island, creating the Associated Free State of Porto Rico.

Whereas during the twenty-three years that the island of Porto Rico has been under American sovereignty the people of the said island have evidenced their capacity for self-government; and

Whereas American citizenship was extended to the people of Porto Rico as a token of our permanent and indestructible relationship; and

Whereas as such American citizens the Porto Ricans have conducted themselves in a manner that entitles them to the enjoyment of fuller liberties and greater rights; and

Whereas for the speedy accomplishment of such an end, it is desirable to place in the hands of the people of Porto Rico



1 him, and to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses  
2 in his favor.

3 That no person shall be held to answer for a criminal  
4 offense without due process of law; and no person for the  
5 same offense shall be twice put in jeopardy of punishment,  
6 nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness  
7 against himself.

8 That all persons shall before conviction be bailable  
9 by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses when the  
10 proof is evident or the presumption great.

11 That no law impairing the obligation of contracts shall  
12 be enacted.

13 That no person shall be imprisoned for debt.

14 That the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall  
15 not be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion, insur-  
16 rection, or invasion the public safety may require it, in  
17 either of which events the same may be suspended by  
18 the President, or by the resident commissioner of the  
19 United States, whenever during such period the necessity  
20 for such suspension shall exist.

21 That no ex post facto law or bill of attainder shall be  
22 enacted.

23 Private property shall not be taken or damaged for  
24 public use except upon payment of just compensation ascer-  
25 tained in the manner provided by law.

1        Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to  
2 limit the power of the legislature to enact laws for the  
3 protection of the lives, health, or safety of employees.

4        That no law granting a title of nobility shall be enacted,  
5 and no person holding any office of profit or trust under  
6 the government of Porto Rico shall, without the consent  
7 of the Congress of the United States, accept any present,  
8 emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever<sup>11</sup> from any  
9 king, queen, prince, or foreign State, or any officer thereof.

10       That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive  
11 fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

12       That the right to be secure against unreasonable  
13 searches and seizures shall not be violated.

14       That no warrant for arrest or search shall issue but  
15 upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation,  
16 and particularly describing the place to be searched and  
17 the persons or things to be seized.

18       That slavery shall not exist in Porto Rico.

19       That involuntary servitude, except as a punishment  
20 for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted,  
21 shall not exist in Porto Rico.

22       That no law shall be passed abridging the freedom of  
23 speech or of the press, or the right of the people peace-  
24 ably to assemble and petition the Government for redress  
25 of grievances.

1       That no law shall be made respecting an establishment  
2 of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and that  
3 the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and  
4 worship without discrimination or preference shall forever  
5 be allowed, and that no political or religious test other  
6 than an oath to support the Constitution of the United  
7 States and the laws of Porto Rico shall be required as  
8 a qualification to any office or public trust under the gov-  
9 ernment of Porto Rico.

10       That no public money or property shall ever be appro-  
11 priated, applied, donated, used, directly or indirectly, for  
12 the use, benefit, or support of any sect, church, denomina-  
13 tion, sectarian institution or association, or system of religion,  
14 or for the use, benefit, or support of any priest, preacher,  
15 minister, or other religious teacher or dignitary as such.  
16 Contracting of polygamous or plural marriages hereafter is  
17 prohibited.

18       The legislature herein provided may authorize and  
19 regulate the importation, manufacture, and sale of intoxi-  
20 cating liquors and drugs for medicinal, sacramental, indus-  
21 trial, and scientific uses only, as well as fix the penalty  
22 for the violations of the laws in respect thereto.

23       That no money shall be paid out of the treasury except  
24 in pursuance of an appropriation by law, and on warrant  
25 drawn by the proper officer in pursuance thereof.

1 That the rule of taxation in Porto Rico shall be uniform.

2 That all money derived from any tax levied or assessed  
3 for a special purpose shall be treated as a special fund in the  
4 treasury and paid out for such purpose only except upon the  
5 approval of the Resident Commissioner of the United States.

6 That eight hours shall constitute a day's work in all  
7 cases of employment of laborers and mechanics by and on  
8 behalf of the government of the island on public works,  
9 except in cases of emergency.

10 That the employment of children under the age of  
11 fourteen years in any occupation injurious to health or morals  
12 or hazardous to life or limb is hereby prohibited.

13 SEC. 3. That no export duties shall be levied or col-  
14 lected on exports from Porto Rico, but taxes and assessments  
15 on property, internal revenue, and license fees, and royalties  
16 for franchises, privileges, and concessions may be imposed  
17 for the purposes of the insular and municipal governments,  
18 respectively, as may be provided and defined by the Legis-  
19 lature of Porto Rico; and when necessary to anticipate taxes  
20 and revenues, bonds and other obligations may be issued  
21 by Porto Rico or any municipal government therein as may  
22 be provided by law, and to protect the public credit:  
23 *Provided, however,* That no public indebtedness of Porto  
24 Rico or of any subdivision or municipality thereof shall be  
25 authorized or allowed in excess of ten per centum of the

1 aggregate tax valuation of its property, and all bonds issued  
2 by the government of Porto Rico, or by its authority, shall  
3 be exempt from taxation by the Government of the United  
4 States, or by the government of Porto Rico or of any  
5 political or municipal subdivision thereof, or by any State,  
6 or by any county, municipality, or other municipal subdi-  
7 vision of any State or Territory of the United States, or by  
8 the District of Columbia. In computing the indebtedness  
9 of the people of Porto Rico, bonds issued by the people of  
10 Porto Rico secured by an equivalent amount of bonds of  
11 municipal corporations or school boards of Porto Rico shall  
12 not be counted.

13       SEC. 4. That the capital of Porto Rico shall be at the  
14 city of San Juan, and the seat of government shall be  
15 maintained there.

16       SEC. 5. That all citizens of Porto Rico, as defined by  
17 section 7 of the Act of April 12, 1900, "temporarily to  
18 provide revenues and a civil government for Porto Rico,  
19 and for other purposes," that also became citizens of the  
20 United States by virtue of section 5 of the Act of March  
21 2, 1917, or that may become such citizens of the United  
22 States, shall and are hereby held to constitute a body politic  
23 under the name and style of "The Associated Free State of  
24 Porto Rico," with the power to sue and be sued.

1       Any person who is born in Porto Rico of an alien  
2       parent and is permanently residing in that island may, if a  
3       minor, upon reaching his majority or within one year there-  
4       after, make a sworn declaration of allegiance to the United  
5       States before the United States district court for Porto Rico,  
6       setting forth therein all the facts connected with his or her  
7       birth and residence in Porto Rico and accompanying due  
8       proof thereof, and from and after the making of such declara-  
9       tion shall be considered to be a citizen of the United States.

10       SEC. 6. That all expenses that may be incurred on  
11       account of the government of Porto Rico for salaries of offi-  
12       cials and the conduct of their offices and departments, and  
13       all expenses and obligations contracted for the internal im-  
14       provement or development of the island, not, however, in-  
15       cluding defenses, barracks, harbors, lighthouses, buoys, and  
16       other works undertaken by the United States, shall, except as  
17       otherwise specifically provided by the Congress, be paid by  
18       the treasurer of Porto Rico out of the revenue in his custody.

19       SEC. 7. That all property which may have been  
20       acquired in Porto Rico by the United States under the ces-  
21       sion of Spain in the treaty of peace entered into on the  
22       10th day of December, 1898, in any public bridges, road  
23       houses, water powers, highways, unnavigable streams and  
24       the beds thereof, subterranean waters, mines or minerals  
25       under the surface of private lands, all property which

1 at the time of the cession belonged, under the laws of  
2 Spain then in force, to the various harbor works boards  
3 of Porto Rico, all the harbor shores, docks, slips, re-  
4 claimed lands, and all public lands and buildings not  
5 heretofore reserved by the United States for public pur-  
6 poses, is hereby placed under the control of the government  
7 of Porto Rico, to be administered for the benefit of the  
8 people of Porto Rico; and the Legislature of Porto Rico  
9 shall have authority, subject to the limitations imposed upon  
10 all its acts, to legislate with respect to all such matters as it  
11 may deem advisable: *Provided*, That the President may  
12 from time to time, in his discretion, convey to the people of  
13 Porto Rico such lands, buildings, or interests in lands or  
14 other property now owned by the United States and within  
15 the territorial limits of Porto Rico as in his opinion are no  
16 longer needed for purposes of the United States. And he  
17 may from time to time accept by legislative grant from  
18 Porto Rico any lands, buildings, or other interest or property  
19 which may be needed for public purposes by the United  
20 States.

21       SEC. 8. That the harbor areas and navigable streams  
22 and bodies of waters and submerged lands underlying the  
23 same in and around the island of Porto Rico and the adja-  
24 cent islands and waters, now owned by the United States  
25 and not reserved by the United States for public purposes,

1 be, and the same are hereby placed under the control of the  
2 government of Porto Rico, to be administered in the same  
3 manner and subject to the same limitations as the property  
4 enumerated in the preceding section: *Provided*, That all  
5 laws of the United States for the protection and improve-  
6 ment of the navigable waters of the United States and the  
7 preservation of the interests of navigation and commerce,  
8 except so far as the same may be locally inapplicable, shall  
9 apply to said island and waters and to its adjacent islands  
10 and waters: *Provided further*, That nothing in this Act  
11 contained shall be construed so as to affect or impair in any  
12 manner the terms or conditions of any authorizations, per-  
13 mits, or other powers heretofore lawfully granted or exer-  
14 cised in or in respect of said waters and submerged lands  
15 in and surrounding said island and its adjacent islands by  
16 the Secretary of War or other authorized officer or agent of  
17 the United States.

18       SEC. 9. That the statutory laws of the United States  
19 not locally inapplicable, except as hereinbefore or herein-  
20 after otherwise provided, shall have the same force and  
21 effect in Porto Rico as in the United States, except the  
22 internal revenue laws: *Provided, however*, That hereafter  
23 all taxes collected under the internal revenue laws of the  
24 United States on articles produced in Porto Rico and trans-

1 ported to the United States, or consumed in the island  
2 shall be covered into the treasury of Porto Rico.

3       SEC. 10. That all judicial process shall run in the  
4 name of "United States of America, ss, the President of the  
5 United States," and all penal or criminal prosecutions in  
6 the local courts shall be conducted in the name and by the  
7 authority of "The Associated Free State of Porto Rico";  
8 and all officials shall be citizens of Porto Rico and of the  
9 United States, and, before entering upon the duties of their  
10 respective offices, shall take an oath to support the Consti-  
11 tution of the United States and the laws of Porto Rico.

12                               EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

13       SEC. 11. That the supreme executive power shall be  
14 vested in an executive officer whose official title shall be the  
15 governor of Porto Rico. He shall be elected by the quali-  
16 fied electors of Porto Rico at the time and places of voting  
17 for members of the legislature in general election, and shall  
18 hold his office for a term of four years beginning on the  
19 first Monday in March next after his election.

20       The governor shall reside in Porto Rico during his  
21 official incumbency and maintain his office at the seat of  
22 government. He shall have general supervision and con-  
23 trol of all departments and bureaus of the government in  
24 Porto Rico, so far as is not inconsistent with the provisions of  
25 this Act, and shall be commander in chief of the militia.

1 He may grant pardons and reprieves and remit fines and  
2 forfeitures for offenses against the laws of Porto Rico, and  
3 respites for all offenses against the laws of the United States  
4 until the decision of the President can be ascertained, and  
5 may veto any legislation enacted as hereinafter provided.  
6 He shall commission all officers that he may be authorized  
7 to appoint. He shall be responsible for the faithful execu-  
8 tion of the laws of Porto Rico and of the United States  
9 applicable in Porto Rico, and whenever it becomes neces-  
10 sary he may call upon the commanders of the military and  
11 naval forces of the United States in the island, or summon  
12 the posse comitatus, or call out the militia to prevent or  
13 suppress lawless violence, invasion, insurrection, or rebellion,  
14 and he may, in case of rebellion or invasion, or imminent  
15 danger thereof, when the public safety requires it, suspend  
16 the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, or place the island  
17 or any part thereof under martial law until communication  
18 can be had with the President and the President's decision  
19 therein made known. He shall annually, and at such other  
20 times as he may be required, make official report of the  
21 transactions of the government of Porto Rico to the execu-  
22 tive department of the Government of the United States to  
23 be designated by the President as herein provided, and his  
24 said annual report shall be transmitted to Congress, and he  
25 shall perform such additional duties and functions as may

1 in pursuance of law be delegated to him by the President.  
2 No person shall be eligible to the office of governor who  
3 is not a qualified elector, a citizen of the United States and  
4 a resident of Porto Rico, born either in the United States or  
5 in Porto Rico, who has not attained the age of thirty years,  
6 and who does not read and write the Spanish and English  
7 languages.

8 The first election of governor shall be by the members  
9 composing both houses of the legislature and shall take place  
10 at a special session which shall be held for that purpose thirty  
11 days after this law goes into effect. Said session for the  
12 purpose aforesaid shall be public and presided over by the  
13 chief justice of the Supreme Court of Porto Rico. The  
14 said election for governor shall be by secret ballot, each  
15 member of the legislature depositing his vote in a box in the  
16 presence of the chief justice. The person having the highest  
17 number of votes shall be governor; but if two or more shall  
18 be equal and highest in votes for the said office, the chief  
19 justice shall cast the deciding vote.

20 In case of the impeachment of the governor and his  
21 removal from office, death, refusal to qualify, resignation,  
22 or absence from the island, the president of the senate of  
23 Porto Rico shall exercise all the power and authority apper-  
24 taining to the office of governor until the governor, absent  
25 or impeached, shall return or be acquitted, or until the gov-

1 ernor next regularly elected shall be duly qualified, as the  
2 case may be; and for the time the president of the senate  
3 shall occupy the office of governor he shall receive the same  
4 compensation as shall be allowed by law to the regularly  
5 elected governor: *Provided, however,* That while the presi-  
6 dent of the senate substitutes for the governor he shall be  
7 precluded from acting as such member of the senate.

8 In case of the impeachment of the governor and his  
9 removal from office, death, refusal to qualify, or resignation,  
10 the legislature shall convene in extraordinary session to fill  
11 the vacancy, in the same manner as hereinbefore provided.

12 SEC. 12. That the following executive departments are  
13 hereby created: A department of justice, the head of which  
14 shall be designated as the attorney general; a department  
15 of finance, the head of which shall be designated as the  
16 treasurer; a department of interior, the head of which shall  
17 be designated as the commissioner of the interior; a depart-  
18 ment of education, the head of which shall be designated as  
19 the commissioner of education; a department of agriculture  
20 and labor, the head of which shall be designated as the com-  
21 missioner of agriculture and labor; and a department of  
22 health, the head of which shall be designated as the com-  
23 missioner of health. The heads of the aforesaid departments  
24 shall be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice  
25 and consent of the Senate of Porto Rico, to hold office at

1 pleasure of the governor, and until their successors are ap-  
2 pointed and qualified.

3 Heads of departments shall reside in Porto Rico during  
4 their official incumbency and for at least one year prior to  
5 their appointment. They may be selected from the elected  
6 members of the senate and house of representatives.

7 The heads of departments shall collectively form a  
8 council to the governor, known as the cabinet. They shall  
9 perform, under the general supervision of the governor, the  
10 duties hereinafter prescribed or which may hereafter be  
11 prescribed by law, and such other duties, not inconsistent  
12 with law, as the governor may assign to them; and they  
13 shall make annual and such other reports to the governor  
14 as he may require, copies of which shall be transmitted  
15 to the executive department of the Government of the  
16 United States, to be designated by the President as herein  
17 provided: *Provided*, That the duties herein imposed upon  
18 the heads of departments shall not carry with them any  
19 additional compensation.

20 SEC. 13. That the attorney general shall have charge  
21 of the administration of justice in Porto Rico; he shall be the  
22 legal adviser of the governor and the heads of departments  
23 and shall be responsible for the proper representation of the  
24 people of Porto Rico or its duly constituted officers in all  
25 actions and proceedings, civil or criminal, in the Supreme

1 Court of Porto Rico in which the people of Porto Rico shall  
2 be interested or a party; and he may, if directed by the  
3 governor or if in his judgment the public interest requires it,  
4 represent the people of Porto Rico or its duly constituted  
5 officers in any other court or before any other officer or  
6 board in any action or proceeding, civil or criminal, in  
7 which the people of Porto Rico may be a party or be inter-  
8 ested. He shall also perform such other duties, not incon-  
9 sistent herewith, as may be prescribed by law.

10 SEC. 14. That the treasurer shall give bond, approved  
11 as to form by the attorney general of Porto Rico, in such  
12 sum as the legislature may require, not less, however, than  
13 the sum of \$125,000, with surety or sureties approved by  
14 the governor, and he shall collect and be the custodian of  
15 public funds, and shall disburse the same in accordance  
16 with law, on warrants signed by the auditor and counter-  
17 signed by the governor, and perform such other duties as may  
18 be provided by law. He may designate banking institu-  
19 tions in Porto Rico and the United States as depositaries  
20 of the government of Porto Rico, subject to such conditions  
21 as may be prescribed by the governor, after they have filed  
22 with him satisfactory evidence of their sound financial con-  
23 dition and have deposited bonds of the United States or of  
24 the government of Porto Rico or other security satisfactory  
25 to the governor in such amounts as may be indicated

1 by him; and no banking institution shall be desig-  
2 nated a depository of the government of Porto Rico  
3 until the foregoing conditions have been complied with.  
4 Interest on deposits shall be required and paid into the  
5 treasury.

6       SEC. 15. That the commissioner of the interior shall  
7 superintend all works of a public nature, have charge of  
8 all public buildings, grounds, and lands, except those be-  
9 longing to the United States, and shall execute such require-  
10 ments as may be imposed by law with respect thereto,  
11 and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by  
12 law.

13       SEC. 16. That the commissioner of education shall  
14 superintend public instruction throughout Porto Rico; all  
15 proposed disbursements on account thereof must be ap-  
16 proved by him, and all courses of study shall be prepared  
17 by him, subject to disapproval by the governor if he desires  
18 to act. He shall prepare rules governing the selection  
19 of teachers, and the appointments of teachers shall be sub-  
20 ject to his approval, and he shall perform such other duties,  
21 not inconsistent with this Act, as may be prescribed by  
22 law.

23       SEC. 17. That the commissioner of agriculture and  
24 labor shall have general charge of such bureaus and branches

1 of government as have been or shall be legally constituted  
2 for the study, advancement, and benefit of agricultural and  
3 other industries, the chief purpose of this department being  
4 to foster, promote, and develop the agricultural interests  
5 and the welfare of the wage earners of Porto Rico, to im-  
6 prove their working conditions, and to advance their oppor-  
7 tunities for profitable employment, and shall perform such  
8 other duties as may be prescribed by law.

9       SEC. 18. That the commissioner of health shall have  
10 charge of all matters relating to public health, sanitation, and  
11 charities, except such as relate to the conduct of maritime  
12 quarantine, and shall perform such other duties as may be  
13 prescribed by law.

14       SEC. 19. That there shall be appointed by the Gover-  
15 nor of Porto Rico, by and with the advice and consent of  
16 the senate of Porto Rico, an auditor, at an annual salary of  
17 \$7,500, for a term of four years and until his successor is ap-  
18 pointed and qualified, who shall examine, audit, and settle  
19 all accounts pertaining to the revenues and receipts, from  
20 whatever source, of the government of Porto Rico and of  
21 the municipal governments of Porto Rico, including public  
22 trust funds and funds derived from bond issues; and audit in  
23 accordance with law and administrative regulations, all  
24 expenditures of funds or property pertaining to or held in  
25 trust by the government of Porto Rico or the municipalities

1 or dependencies thereof. He shall perform a like duty with  
2 respect to all government branches.

3 He shall keep the general accounts of the government  
4 and preserve the vouchers pertaining thereto.

5 It shall be the duty of the auditor to bring to the atten-  
6 tion of the proper administrative officer expenditures of  
7 funds or property which, in his opinion, are irregular, un-  
8 necessary, excessive, or extravagant.

9 In case of vacancy or of the absence from duty, from  
10 any cause, of the auditor, the Governor of Porto Rico may  
11 designate an assistant, who shall have charge of the office.

12 The jurisdiction of the auditor over accounts, whether  
13 of funds or property, and all vouchers and records pertain-  
14 ing thereto, shall be exclusive. With the approval of the  
15 governor he shall, from time to time, make and promulgate  
16 general or special rules and regulations not inconsistent  
17 with law covering the methods of accounting for public  
18 funds and property, and funds and property held in trust  
19 by the government or any of its branches: *Provided*, That  
20 any officer accountable for public funds or property may  
21 require such additional reports or returns from his subordi-  
22 nates or others as he may deem necessary for his own  
23 information and protection.

24 The decisions of the auditor shall be final, except that  
25 appeal therefrom may be taken by the party aggrieved or

1 the head of the department concerned within one year, in  
2 the manner hereinafter prescribed. The auditor shall, except  
3 as hereinafter provided, have like authority as that conferred  
4 by the law upon the several auditors of the United States  
5 and the Comptroller of the United States Treasury, and is  
6 authorized to communicate directly with any person having  
7 claims before him for settlement, or with any department,  
8 officer, or person having official relations with his office.

9 As soon after the close of each fiscal year as the accounts  
10 of said year may be examined and adjusted, the auditors shall  
11 submit to the governor an annual report of the fiscal con-  
12 cerns of the Government, showing the receipts and disburse-  
13 ments of the various departments and bureaus of the Govern-  
14 ment and of the various municipalities, and make such other  
15 reports as may be required of him by the governor or the  
16 head of the executive department of the Government of the  
17 United States, to be designated by the President as herein  
18 provided.

19 In the execution of his duties the auditor is authorized  
20 to summon witnesses, administer oaths, and to take evidence,  
21 and, in the pursuance of these provisions, may issue sub-  
22 pœnas and enforce the attendance of witnesses.

23 The office of the auditor shall be under the general  
24 supervision of the governor and shall consist of the auditor  
25 and such necessary assistants as may be prescribed by law.

1        SEC. 20. That any person aggrieved by the action or  
2 decision of the auditor in the settlement of his account or  
3 claim may, within one year, take an appeal in writing to the  
4 governor, which appeal shall specifically set forth the par-  
5 ticular action of the auditor to which exception is taken, with  
6 the reason and authorities relied on for reversing such de-  
7 cision. The decision of the governor in such case shall be  
8 final, subject to such right of action as may be otherwise pro-  
9 vided by law.

10        SEC. 21. That there shall be appointed by the governor,  
11 by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of Porto  
12 Rico, an executive secretary at an annual salary of \$6,000,  
13 who shall record and preserve the minutes and proceedings  
14 of the public service commissioner hereinafter provided for  
15 and the laws enacted by the legislature and all acts and  
16 proceedings of the governor, and promulgate all proclama-  
17 tions and orders of the governor and all laws enacted by the  
18 legislature, and until otherwise provided by the Legislature  
19 of Porto Rico perform all the duties of secretary of Porto  
20 Rico as now provided by law, except as otherwise specified  
21 in this Act, and perform such other duties as may be assigned  
22 to him by the Governor of Porto Rico. In the event of a  
23 vacancy in the office, or the absence, illness, or temporary  
24 disqualification of such officer, the governor shall designate  
25 some officer or employee of the Government to discharge the

1 functions of said office during such vacancy, absence, illness,  
2 or temporary disqualification.

3       SEC. 22. That the Governor of Porto Rico, within sixty  
4 days after the end of each session of the legislature, shall  
5 transmit to the executive department of the Government of the  
6 United States, to be designated as herein provided for, which  
7 shall in turn transmit the same to the Congress of the United  
8 States, copies of all laws enacted during the session.

9                               LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

10       SEC. 23. That all local legislative powers in Porto Rico,  
11 except as herein otherwise provided, shall be vested in a  
12 legislature, which shall consist of two houses, one the senate  
13 and the other the house of representatives, and the two  
14 houses shall be designated "The Legislature of Porto Rico."

15       SEC. 24. That the Senate of Porto Rico shall consist of  
16 nineteen members elected for terms of four years by the  
17 qualified electors of Porto Rico. Each of the seven senatorial  
18 districts defined as hereinafter provided shall have the right  
19 to elect two senators, and in additions thereto there shall be  
20 elected five senators at large. No person shall be a member  
21 of the Senate of Porto Rico who is not over thirty years  
22 of age and who is not able to read and write either the  
23 Spanish or English language, and who had not been a resi-  
24 dent of Porto Rico for at least two consecutive years and,  
25 except in the case of senators at large, an actual resident of

1 the senatorial district from which chosen for a period of at  
2 least one year prior to his election. Except as herein other-  
3 wise provided, the Senate of Porto Rico shall exercise all of  
4 the purely legislative powers and functions that it has here-  
5 tofore exercised, including confirmation of appointments; but  
6 appointments made while the senate is not in session shall  
7 be effective either until disapproved or until the next ad-  
8 journment of the senate for the session. In electing the  
9 five senators at large each elector shall be permitted to vote  
10 for but one candidate, and the five candidates receiving the  
11 largest number of votes shall be declared elected.

12       SEC. 25. That the House of Representatives of Porto  
13 Rico shall consist of thirty-nine members, elected quadren-  
14 nially by the qualified electors of Porto Rico, as hereinafter  
15 provided. Each of the representative districts hereinafter  
16 provided for shall have the right to elect one representative,  
17 and in addition thereto there shall be elected four repre-  
18 sentatives at large. No person shall be a member of the  
19 house of representatives who is not over twenty-five years  
20 of age and who is not able to read and write either the  
21 Spanish or English language, and, except in the case of  
22 representative at large, who has not been a bona fide resi-  
23 dent of the district from which elected for at least one year  
24 prior to his election. In electing the four representatives at  
25 large, each elector shall be permitted to vote for but one

1 candidate, and the four candidates receiving the largest  
2 number of votes shall be elected.

3       SEC. 26. That for the purpose of elections hereafter to  
4 the legislature the present division of the island of Porto  
5 Rico into thirty-five representative districts, composed of  
6 contiguous and compact territory and established upon the  
7 basis of equal population, shall be kept until otherwise pro-  
8 vided by the legislature. Future division of districts shall be  
9 made as nearly as practicable to conform to the topographical  
10 nature of the land, with regard to roads and other means of  
11 communication and to natural barriers. The legislature shall  
12 also divide the island of Porto Rico into seven senatorial dis-  
13 tricts, each composed of five contiguous and compact repre-  
14 sentative districts, whenever the present division should be  
15 deemed no longer correct.

16       SEC. 27. That the next regular election in Porto Rico  
17 shall be held four years after the last election already held  
18 in the island. At such election there shall be chosen the  
19 governor, senators, representatives, and two Resident Com-  
20 missioners to the United States, as herein provided. There-  
21 after the elections shall also be held on the first Tuesday  
22 after the first Monday in November: *Provided, however,*  
23 That nothing herein contained shall be construed to limit  
24 the right of the Legislature of Porto Rico at any time to  
25 revise the boundaries of senatorial and representative dis-

1    tricts and of any municipality, or to abolish any municipi-  
2    pality and the officers provided therefor.

3        SEC. 28. That the term of office of senators and repre-  
4    sentatives chosen shall be four years from the 2d of Janu-  
5    ary following their election. In case of vacancy among  
6    the members of the senate or in the house of representa-  
7    tives special elections may be held in the districts wherein  
8    such vacancy occurred, under such regulations as may be  
9    prescribed by law, but senators or representatives elected  
10   in such cases shall hold office only for the unexpired portion  
11   of the term wherein the vacancy occurred, and no senator  
12   or representative shall, during the time for which he shall  
13   have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under  
14   the government of Porto Rico nor be appointed to any office  
15   created by act of the legislature during the time for which  
16   he shall have been elected until two years after his term of  
17   office shall have expired.

18        SEC. 29. That members of the Senate and House of  
19   Representatives of Porto Rico shall receive compensation at  
20   the rate of \$7 per day for the first ninety days of each  
21   regular session and \$1 per day for each additional day of  
22   such session while in session, and mileage for each session  
23   at the rate of 10 cents per kilometer for each kilometer  
24   actually and necessarily traveled in going from their legis-

1 lative districts to the capital and therefrom to their place of  
2 residence in their districts by the usual routes of travel.

3       SEC. 30. That the senate and house of representatives,  
4 respectively, shall be the sole judges of the elections, returns,  
5 and qualifications of their members, and they shall have  
6 and exercise all the powers with respect to the conduct of  
7 their proceedings that usually pertain to parliamentary  
8 legislative bodies. Both houses shall convene at the capital  
9 on the second Monday in February following the next elec-  
10 tion, and organize by the election of a speaker or a presiding  
11 officer, a clerk, and a sergeant at arms for each house, and  
12 such other officers and assistants as may be required.

13       SEC. 31. That the regular sessions of the Legislature  
14 of Porto Rico, provided for by this Act, shall convene and  
15 be held biennially, convening on the second Monday in  
16 February of the year 1925, and on the second Monday in  
17 February of each second year thereafter. The governor  
18 may call special sessions of the legislature or of the senate  
19 at any time when in his opinion the public interest may  
20 require it, and no legislation shall be considered at such  
21 session other than that specified in the call, and he shall call  
22 the senate in special session at least once each year on the  
23 second Monday in February of those years in which a  
24 regular session of the legislature is not provided for.

1        SEC. 32. That the enacting clause of the laws shall be  
2 as to acts, "Be it enacted by the Legislature of Porto Rico,"  
3 and as to joint resolutions, "Be it resolved by the Legisla-  
4 ture of Porto Rico." Except as hereinafter provided, bills  
5 and joint resolutions may originate in either house. The  
6 governor shall submit at the opening of each regular session  
7 of the legislature a budget of receipts and expenditures,  
8 which shall be the basis of the ensuing biennial appropria-  
9 tion bill. No bill shall become a law until it be passed in  
10 each house by a majority yea-and-nay vote of all of the  
11 members belonging to such house and entered upon the  
12 journal and be approved by the governor within ten days  
13 thereafter. If when a bill that has been passed is presented  
14 to the governor for his signature he approved the same, he  
15 shall sign it; or if not, he shall return it, with his objections,  
16 to the house in which it originated, which house shall enter  
17 his objections at large on its journal and proceed to recon-  
18 sider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of all  
19 the members of that house shall agree to pass the same it  
20 shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house,  
21 by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved  
22 by two-thirds of all the members of that house it shall become  
23 a law. If any bill presented to the governor contain several  
24 items of appropriation of money, he may object to one or  
25 more of such items, or any part or parts, portion or portions

1 thereof, while approving of the other portion of the bill. In  
2 such case he shall append to the bill, at the time of signing  
3 it, a statement of the items, parts, or portions thereof to  
4 which he objects, and the appropriation so objected to shall  
5 not take effect. If any bill shall not be returned by the  
6 governor within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall  
7 have been presented to him, it shall be a law in like manner  
8 as if he had signed it, unless the legislature by adjournment  
9 prevents its return, in which case it shall be a law if signed  
10 by the governor within thirty days after receipt by him;  
11 otherwise it shall not be a law. All laws enacted by the  
12 Legislature of Porto Rico shall be reported to the Congress  
13 of the United States, as provided in section 23 of this Act,  
14 which hereby reserves the power and authority to annul the  
15 same. If at the termination of any fiscal year the appro-  
16 priations necessary for the support of the government for  
17 the ensuing fiscal year shall not have been made, the several  
18 sums appropriated in the last appropriation bills for the  
19 objects and purposes therein specified, so far as the same  
20 may be applicable, shall be deemed to be reappropriated  
21 item by item; and until the legislature shall act in such behalf  
22 the treasurer may, with the advice of the governor, make the  
23 payments necessary for the purposes aforesaid.

24 The house of representatives shall have the sole power  
25 of impeachment; but by a vote of two-thirds of all members

1 present shall be required to impeach any officer, and all  
2 impeachments shall be tried by the senate. When sitting for  
3 that purpose the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation,  
4 and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of  
5 two-thirds of the senators present. The senate may adjourn  
6 to a fixed day for the trial of any impeachment, and may sit  
7 for the purpose of such trial whether the house of rēpresen-  
8 tatives be in session or not, but the time fixed for such trial  
9 shall not be more than six months from the time articles of  
10 impeachment shall be preferred by the house of representa-  
11 tives. The chief justice shall preside at all trials by impeach-  
12 ment. The governor shall be liable to impeachment for any  
13 misdemeanor in office, but judgment in such cases shall  
14 extend only to removal from office and disqualification to  
15 hold any office of honor, trust, or profit under the insular  
16 government; but the party convicted or acquitted shall  
17 nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, and punishment  
18 according to law.

19 Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and  
20 may, in its discretion, from time to time publish the same,  
21 and the yeas and nays on any question shall, on the demand  
22 of one-fifth of the members present, be entered on the journal.

23 The sessions of each house and of the committees of  
24 the whole shall be open.

1       Neither house shall, without the consent of the other,  
2 adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place  
3 than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

4       No law shall be passed except by bill, and no bill shall  
5 be so altered or amended on its passage through either house  
6 as to change its original purpose.

7       No act of the legislature except the general appropria-  
8 tion bills for the expenses of the government shall take effect  
9 until ninety days after its passage, unless in case of emer-  
10 gency (which shall be expressed in the preamble or body  
11 of the act) the legislature shall by a vote of two-thirds of  
12 all the members elected to each house otherwise direct. No  
13 bill, except the general appropriation bill for the expenses  
14 of the government only, introduced in either house of the  
15 legislature after the first forty days of the session, shall be-  
16 come a law.

17       No bill shall be considered or become a law unless  
18 referred to a committee, returned therefrom, and printed  
19 for the use of the members: *Provided*, That either house  
20 may, by a majority vote, discharge a committee from the  
21 consideration of a measure and bring it before the body for  
22 consideration.

23       No bill, except general appropriation bills, shall be  
24 passed containing more than one subject, which shall be  
25 clearly expressed in its title; but if any subject shall be

1 embraced in any act which shall not be expressed in the  
2 title, such act shall be void only as to so much thereof as shall  
3 not be so expressed.

4 No law shall be revived, or amended, or the provi-  
5 sions thereof extended or conferred by reference to its title  
6 only, but so much thereof as is revived, amended, extended,  
7 or conferred shall be reenacted and published at length.

8 The presiding officer of each house shall, in the presence  
9 of the house over which he presides, sign all bills and joint  
10 resolutions passed by the legislature, after their titles shall  
11 have been publicly read immediately before signing; and  
12 the fact of signing shall be entered on the journal.

13 The legislature shall prescribe by law the number,  
14 duties, and compensation of the officers and employees of  
15 each house; and no payment shall be made for services to  
16 the legislature from the treasury, or be in any way author-  
17 ized to any person, except to an acting officer or employee  
18 elected or appointed in pursuance of law.

19 No bill shall be passed giving any extra compensation  
20 to any public officer, servant or employee, agent or con-  
21 tractor, after services shall have been rendered or con-  
22 tract made.

23 Except as otherwise provided in this Act no law shall  
24 extend the term of any public officer, or increase or diminish  
25 his salary or emoluments after his election or appointment,

1 nor permit any officer or employee to draw compensation  
2 for more than one office or position.

3 All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house  
4 of representatives, but the senate may propose or concur  
5 with amendments, as in case of other bills.

6 The general appropriation bill shall embrace nothing  
7 but appropriations for the ordinary expense of the execu-  
8 tive, legislative, and judicial departments, interest on the  
9 public debt, and for public schools. All other appropriations  
10 shall be made by separate bills, each embracing but one  
11 subject.

12 Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concur-  
13 rence of both houses may be necessary, except on the ques-  
14 tion of adjournment, or relating solely to the transaction of  
15 business of the two houses, shall be presented to the gov-  
16 ernor, and before it shall take effect be approved by him, or,  
17 being disapproved, shall be repassed by two-thirds of both  
18 houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in  
19 case of a bill.

20 Any person who shall, directly or indirectly, offer, give,  
21 or promise any money or thing of value, testimonial, privi-  
22 lege, or personal advantage to any executive or judicial  
23 officer or member of the legislature to influence him in the  
24 performance of any of his public or official duties, shall be  
25 deemed guilty of bribery and be punished by a fine not ex-

1 ceeding \$5,000, or imprisonment not exceeding five years,  
2 or both.

3 The offense of corrupt solicitation of members of the  
4 legislature, or of public officers of Porto Rico, or of any  
5 municipal division thereof, and any occupation or practice  
6 of solicitation of such members or officers to influence their  
7 official action, shall be defined by law, and shall be punished  
8 by fine and imprisonment.

9 In case the available revenues of Porto Rico for any  
10 fiscal year, including available surplus in the insular treas-  
11 ury, are insufficient to meet all the appropriations made by  
12 the legislature for such year, such appropriations shall be  
13 paid in the following order, unless otherwise directed by the  
14 governor:

15 First class. The ordinary expenses of the legislative,  
16 executive, and judicial departments of the State government,  
17 and interest on any public debt, shall first be paid in full.

18 Second class. Appropriations for all institutions, such  
19 as the penitentiary, insane asylum, industrial school, and  
20 the like, where the inmates are confined involuntarily, shall  
21 next be paid in full.

22 Third class. Appropriations for education and educa-  
23 tional and charitable institutions shall next be paid in full.

24 Fourth class. Appropriations for any other officer or  
25 officers, bureaus or boards, shall next be paid in full.

1 Fifth class. Appropriations for all other purposes shall  
2 next be paid.

3 That in case there are not sufficient revenues for any  
4 fiscal year, including available surplus in the insular treas-  
5 ury, to meet in full the appropriations of said year for all  
6 of the said classes of appropriations, then said revenues  
7 shall be applied to the classes in the order above named,  
8 and if, after the payment of the prior classes in full, there  
9 are not sufficient revenues for any fiscal year to pay in full  
10 the appropriations for that year for the next class, then, in  
11 that event, whatever there may be to apply on account of  
12 appropriations for said class shall be distributed among said  
13 appropriations pro rata according as the amount of each  
14 appropriation of that class shall bear to the total amount of  
15 all of said appropriations for that class for such fiscal year.

16 No appropriation shall be made, nor any expenditure  
17 authorized by the legislature, whereby the expenditure of  
18 the government of Porto Rico during any fiscal year shall  
19 exceed the total revenue then provided for by law and  
20 applicable for such appropriation or expenditure, including  
21 any available surplus in the treasury, unless the legislature  
22 making such appropriation shall provide for levying a  
23 sufficient tax to pay such appropriation or expenditure  
24 within such fiscal year.

1        SEC. 33. That at the first election held pursuant to this  
2 Act the qualified electors shall be those having the qualifica-  
3 tions of voters under the present law. Thereafter voters  
4 shall be citizens of the United States and of Porto Rico  
5 twenty-one years of age or over and have such additional  
6 qualifications as may be prescribed by the Legislature of  
7 Porto Rico: *Provided*, That no property qualifications shall  
8 ever be imposed upon or required of any voter.

9        SEC. 34. That the qualified electors of Porto Rico shall  
10 at all general elections choose two Resident Commissioners  
11 to the United States, whose term of office shall be four  
12 years from the 4th of March following such general elec-  
13 tion, and who shall be entitled to receive official recognition  
14 as such Commissioners by all of the departments of the  
15 Government of the United States, upon presentation, through  
16 the Department of State, of a certificate of election of the  
17 Governor of Porto Rico. The Resident Commissioners shall  
18 receive a salary, payable monthly by the United States, of  
19 \$7,500 per annum. Such Commissioners shall be allowed  
20 the same sum for stationery and for the pay of necessary  
21 clerk hire as is now allowed to Members of the House of  
22 Representatives of the United States; and they shall be  
23 allowed the sum of \$500 as mileage for each session of the  
24 House of Representatives and the franking privilege granted  
25 Members of Congress. No person shall be eligible to elec-

1 tion as Resident Commissioner who is not a bona fide  
2 citizen of the United States and of Porto Rico, born either  
3 in the United States or in the said island, who is not less  
4 than twenty-five years of age and who does not read and  
5 write the English language. In case of a vacancy in any of  
6 the offices of Resident Commissioner by death, resignation,  
7 or otherwise, the governor, by and with the advice and  
8 consent of the senate, shall appoint a Resident Commissioner  
9 to fill the vacancy, who shall serve until the next general  
10 election and until his successor is elected and qualified.

11 SEC. 35. That the legislative authority herein pro-  
12 vided shall extend to all matters of a legislative character not  
13 locally inapplicable, including power to create, consolidate,  
14 and reorganize the municipalities so far as may be necessary,  
15 and to provide and repeal laws and ordinances therefor;  
16 also the power to alter, amend, modify, or repeal any or all  
17 laws and ordinances of every character now in force in Porto  
18 Rico or municipality or district thereof in so far as such  
19 alteration, amendment, modification, or repeal may be con-  
20 sistent with the provisions of this Act.

21 No executive department not provided for in this Act  
22 shall be created by the legislature, but the legislature may  
23 consolidate departments or abolish any department with the  
24 consent of the President of the United States.

1        SEC. 36. That all grants of franchises, rights, and  
2 privileges of a public or quasi public nature shall be made  
3 by a public service commissioner, to be appointed by the  
4 governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate  
5 of Porto Rico, to hold office for the term of four years and  
6 until his successor is duly appointed and qualified. His  
7 compensation shall be \$10,000 annually. The said com-  
8 missioner is also empowered and directed to discharge all  
9 the executive functions relating to public service corporations  
10 heretofore conferred by law upon the public service com-  
11 mission. Franchises, rights, and privileges granted by the  
12 said commissioner shall not be effective until approved by  
13 the governor, and shall be reported to Congress, which  
14 hereby reserves the power to annul or modify the same.

15        The Interstate Commerce Act and the several amend-  
16 ments made or to be made thereto, the Safety Appliance  
17 Acts, and the several amendments made or to be made  
18 thereto, and the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to amend  
19 an Act entitled 'An Act to regulate commerce,' approved  
20 February 4, 1887, and all Acts amendatory thereof, by  
21 providing for a valuation of the several classes of property  
22 of carriers subject thereto and securing information concern-  
23 ing their stocks, bonds, and other securities," approved  
24 March 1, 1913, shall not apply to Porto Rico.

1       The Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico is hereby  
2 authorized to enact laws relating to the regulation of the  
3 rates, tariffs, and service of public carriers by rail in Porto  
4 Rico, and the public service commissioner hereby provided  
5 shall have power to enforce such laws under appropriate  
6 regulation.

7       SEC. 37. That all grants of franchises and privileges  
8 under the section last preceding shall provide that the same  
9 shall be subject to amendment, alteration, or repeal, and  
10 shall forbid the issue of stocks or bonds except in exchange  
11 for actual cash or property at a fair valuation, to be de-  
12 termined by the public-service commissioner, equal in amount  
13 to the par value of the stocks or bonds issued, and shall forbid  
14 the declaring of stock or bond dividends, and in the case of  
15 public service corporations shall provide for the effective  
16 regulation of charges thereof and for the purchase or taking  
17 of their property by the authorities at a fair and reasonable  
18 valuation.

19       That nothing in this Act contained shall be so con-  
20 strued as to abrogate or in any manner impair or affect  
21 the provision contained in section 3 of the joint resolution  
22 approved May 1, 1900, with respect to the buying, selling,  
23 or holding of real estate.

24       SEC. 38. That the execution of the laws of the United  
25 States relating to immigration, to tariffs, customs, and

1 duties on importations into the United States and the regu-  
2 lations made pursuant thereto shall be effected in Porto  
3 Rico through officials appointed by the governor of Porto  
4 Rico, by and with the advice and consent of the senate of  
5 the said island.

6 JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

7 SEC. 39. That the judicial power shall be vested in  
8 the courts and tribunals of Porto Rico now established and  
9 in operation under and by virtue of existing laws. The  
10 jurisdiction of said courts and the form of procedure in  
11 them, and the various officers and attachés thereof, shall  
12 also continue to be as now provided until otherwise pro-  
13 vided by law: *Provided, however,* That the chief justice  
14 and associate justices of the supreme court shall be ap-  
15 pointed by the governor, by and with the advice and con-  
16 sent of the Senate of Porto Rico; and the Legislature of Porto  
17 Rico shall have authority, from time to time as it may  
18 see fit, not inconsistent with this Act, to organize, modify,  
19 or rearrange the courts and their jurisdiction and procedure,  
20 except the District Court of the United States for Porto Rico.  
21 All judgments rendered by the Supreme Court of Porto  
22 Rico shall be final, except in case of the interpretation of  
23 a constitutional provision or of a law enacted by the Con-  
24 gress of the United States.

1        SEC. 40. That Porto Rico shall constitute a judicial  
2 district to be called "the district of Porto Rico." The Presi-  
3 dent, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall  
4 appoint one district judge, whose salary shall be \$7,500  
5 per annum. There shall be appointed in like manner  
6 a district attorney, whose salary shall be \$4,000 per  
7 annum, and a marshal for said district, whose salary  
8 shall be \$3,500 per annum, each for a term of four  
9 years unless sooner removed by the President. The  
10 district court for said district shall be called "the District  
11 Court of the United States for Porto Rico," and shall have  
12 power to appoint all necessary officials and assistants, includ-  
13 ing the clerk, interpreter, and such commissioners as may be  
14 necessary, who shall be entitled to the same fees and have  
15 like powers and duties as are exercised and performed by  
16 United States commissioners. Such district court shall have  
17 jurisdiction of all cases cognizable in the district courts of  
18 the United States, and shall proceed in the same manner.  
19 In addition said district court shall have jurisdiction for the  
20 naturalization of aliens and Porto Ricans, and for this pur-  
21 pose residence in Porto Rico shall be counted in the same  
22 manner as residence elsewhere in the United States. Said  
23 district court shall have jurisdiction of all controversies where  
24 all of the parties on either side of the controversy are citizens  
25 or subjects of a foreign State or States, or citizens of a State,

1 Territory, or District of the United States not domiciled in  
2 Porto Rico, wherein the matter in dispute exceeds, exclusive  
3 of interest or cost, the sum or value of \$3,000, and of all  
4 controversies in which there is a separable controversy in-  
5 volving such jurisdictional amount and in which all of the  
6 parties on either side of such separable controversy are citi-  
7 zens or subjects of the character aforesaid: *Provided*, That  
8 nothing in this Act shall be deemed to impair the jurisdiction  
9 of the District Court of the United States for Porto Rico to  
10 hear and determine all controversies pending in said court at  
11 the date of the approval of this Act. Upon the taking effect  
12 of this Act the salaries of the judge and officials of the District  
13 Court of the United States for Porto Rico, together with the  
14 court expenses, shall be paid from the United States revenues  
15 in the same manner as in other United States district courts.  
16 In case of vacancy or of the death, absence, or other legal  
17 disability on the part of the judge of the said District Court  
18 of the United States for Porto Rico, the President of the  
19 United States is authorized to designate one of the judges of  
20 the Supreme Court of Porto Rico to discharge the duties of  
21 judge of said court until such absence or disability shall be re-  
22 moved, and thereupon such judge so designated for said serv-  
23 ice shall be fully authorized and empowered to perform the  
24 duties of said office during such absence or disability of such  
25 regular judge, and to sign all necessary papers and records

1 as the acting judge of said court, without extra compensa-  
2 tion.

3       SEC. 41. That the laws of the United States relating to  
4 appeals, writs of error and certiorari, removal of causes, and  
5 other matters or proceedings as between the courts of the  
6 United States and the courts of the several States shall  
7 govern in such matters and proceedings as between the dis-  
8 trict court of the United States and the courts of Porto Rico.  
9 Regular terms of said United States district court shall be  
10 held at San Juan, commencing on the first Monday in May  
11 and November of each year, and also at Ponce on the second  
12 Monday in February of each year, and special terms may be  
13 held at Mayaguez at such stated times as said judge may  
14 deem expedient. All pleadings and proceedings in said  
15 court shall be conducted in the English language. The said  
16 district court shall be attached to and included in the first  
17 circuit of the United States, with the right of appeal and  
18 review by said circuit court of appeals in all cases where the  
19 same would lie from any district court to a circuit court of  
20 appeals of the United States, and with the right of appeal  
21 and review directly by the Supreme Court of the United  
22 States in all cases where a direct appeal would be from such  
23 district courts.

24       SEC. 42. That writs of error and appeals from the final  
25 judgments and decrees of the Supreme Court of Porto Rico

1 may be taken and prosecuted to the circuit court of appeals  
2 for the first circuit and to the Supreme Court of the United  
3 States as now provided by law.

4       SEC. 43. That the qualifications of jurors as fixed by  
5 the local laws of Porto Rico shall not apply to jurors se-  
6 lected to serve in the District Court of the United States for  
7 Porto Rico; but the qualifications required of jurors in said  
8 court shall be that each shall be of the age of not less than  
9 twenty-one years and not over sixty-five years, a resident  
10 of Porto Rico for not less than one year, and have a  
11 sufficient knowledge of the English language to enable him  
12 to serve as a juror; they shall also be citizens of the United  
13 States. Juries for the said court shall be selected, drawn,  
14 and subject to exemption in accordance with the laws of  
15 Congress regulating the same in the United States courts  
16 in so far as locally applicable.

17       SEC. 44. That all such fees, fines, costs, and forfeitures  
18 as would be deposited to the credit of the United States if  
19 collected and paid into a district court of the United States  
20 shall become revenues of the United States when collected  
21 and paid into the District Court of the United States for  
22 Porto Rico: *Provided*, That \$500 a year from such fees,  
23 fines, costs, and forfeitures shall be retained by the clerk and  
24 expended for law library purposes under the direction of  
25 the judge.

1        SEC. 45. That the Attorney General of the United  
2 States shall from time to time determine the salaries of  
3 all officials and assistants appointed by the United States  
4 district court, including the clerk, his deputies, interpreters,  
5 stenographer, and other officials and employees, the same  
6 to be paid by the United States as other salaries and ex-  
7 penses of like character in United States courts.

8        SEC. 46. That jurors and witnesses in the District Court  
9 of the United States for Porto Rico shall be entitled to and  
10 receive 15 cents for each mile necessarily traveled over  
11 any stage line or by private conveyance and 10 cents for  
12 each mile over any railway in going to and returning from  
13 said courts. But no constructive or double mileage fees  
14 shall be allowed by reason of any person being summoned  
15 both as witness and juror or as witness in two or more cases  
16 pending in the same court and triable at the same term  
17 thereof. Such jurors shall be paid \$3 per day and such  
18 witnesses \$1.50 per day while in attendance upon the court.

19        SEC. 47. That the supreme and district courts of  
20 Porto Rico and the respective judges thereof may grant  
21 writs of habeas corpus in all cases in which the same are  
22 grantable by the judges of the district courts of the United  
23 States, and the supreme court and district courts may grant  
24 writs of mandamus in all proper cases.



1 heads of executive departments, chief justice of the supreme  
2 court, and associate justices of the supreme court shall be  
3 fixed by the Legislature of Porto Rico.

4 Where any officer whose salary is fixed by this Act is  
5 required to give a bond, the premium thereof shall be paid  
6 from the insular treasury.

7 SEC. 50. That the provisions of the foregoing section  
8 shall not apply to municipal officials; their salaries and the  
9 compensation of their deputies, assistants, and other help,  
10 as well as all other expenses incurred by the municipalities,  
11 shall be paid out of the municipal revenues, in such manner  
12 as the legislature shall provide.

13 SEC. 51. That any bureau or office belonging to any  
14 of the regular departments of the government, or hereafter  
15 created, or not assigned, may be transferred or assigned to  
16 any department by the governor with the approval of the  
17 Senate of Porto Rico.

18 SEC. 52. That deeds and other instruments affecting  
19 land situate in the District of Columbia, or any other terri-  
20 tory or possession of the United States, may be acknowl-  
21 edged in Porto Rico before any notary public appointed  
22 therein by proper authority, or any officer therein who has  
23 ex officio the powers of a notary public: *Provided*, That the  
24 certificate by such notary shall be accompanied by the cer-  
25 tificate of the executive secretary of Porto Rico to the effect

1 that the notary taking such acknowledgment is in fact such  
2 notarial officer.

3 SEC. 53. That nothing in this Act shall be deemed to  
4 impair or interrupt the jurisdiction of existing courts over  
5 matters pending therein upon the approval of this Act,  
6 which jurisdiction is in all respects hereby continued, the  
7 purpose of this Act being to preserve the integrity of all of  
8 said courts and their jurisdiction until otherwise specifically  
9 provided.

10 SEC. 54. That this Act shall take effect upon approval,  
11 but until its provisions shall severally become operative, as  
12 hereinbefore provided, the corresponding legislative and  
13 executive functions of the government in Porto Rico shall  
14 continue to be exercised and in full force and operation as  
15 now provided by law.

16 SEC. 55. That the laws and ordinances of Porto Rico  
17 now in force shall continue in force and effect, except as  
18 altered, amended, or modified herein, until altered, amended,  
19 or repealed by the legislative authority herein provided for  
20 Porto Rico or by Act of Congress of the United States; and  
21 such legislative authority shall have power, when not incon-  
22 sistent with this Act, by due enactment to amend, alter,  
23 modify, or repeal any law or ordinance, civil or criminal,  
24 continued in force by this Act as it may from time to time  
25 see fit.

1        SEC. 56. That all laws or parts of laws applicable to  
2 Porto Rico not in conflict with any of the provisions of this  
3 Act, including the laws relating to tariffs, customs, and  
4 duties on importations into Porto Rico prescribed by the  
5 Act of Congress entitled "An Act temporarily to provide  
6 revenues and a civil government for Porto Rico, and for  
7 other purposes," approved April 12, 1900, are hereby  
8 continued in effect, and all laws and parts of laws inconsistent  
9 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.



# A BILL

To declare the purpose of the people of the United States as to the political status of the people of Porto Rico, and to provide an autonomous government for the said island, creating the Associated Free State of Porto Rico.

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By Mr. KING.

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FEBRUARY 3 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 10), 1922.—  
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Territories and Insular Possessions.