

83^d CONGRESS
2^d SESSION

H. RES. 455

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 1954

Mr. BELCHER submitted the following resolution: which was referred to the
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

RESOLUTION

Whereas it has never been the policy of the United States to retain control of the people of any of the Territories or possessions of the United States when those people desire their independence; and

Whereas it has ever been the policy of the United States to give all proper assistance possible to the establishment of republican forms of government; and

Whereas the policy of the United States shall continue to be based on the principle of government by the consent of the governed: Therefore be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Repre-
- 2 sentatives that the government of the Commonwealth of
- 3 Puerto Rico should submit to the qualified voters of Puerto
- 4 Rico for acceptance or rejection through an islandwide ref-

1 erendum to be held in accordance with the laws of Puerto
2 Rico, the question of whether Puerto Rico should become
3 totally independent of the United States, so that if such shall
4 be the desire of the majority of the people of Puerto Rico,
5 all possible action may be taken by the Government of the
6 United States to achieve that result.

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RESOLUTION

To provide for a referendum on the question
of independence for Puerto Rico.

By Mr. BELCHER

MARCH 2, 1954

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular
Affairs