94TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 215

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 22, 1976

Mr. Jackson (for himself, Mr. Eagleton, Mr. Gravel, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Hollings, Mr. Humphrey, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. McGovfrn, Mr. Mansfield, Mr. Mathias, Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Hugh Scott, Mr. Symington, and Mr. Williams) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

JOINT RESOLUTION

- To establish a Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the United States, and for other purposes.
- Whereas the Congress has recognized the right of the people of Puerto Rico to govern themselves, and, acting together with the Government of the United States, to determine their political status; and
- Whereas the people of Puerto Rico, pursuant to a compact with the United States under the terms of Public Law 600, Eighty-first Congress, chose to establish the Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico on July 25, 1952, the title being then translated as Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and

- Whereas the Commonwealth status of Puerto Rico has assured its cultural integrity, served to strengthen its democratic institutions, and advanced its economic growth; and
- Whereas the Commonwealth status of Puerto Rico has demonstrated to the world the strength and flexibility of America's Federal system, by transforming a formerly colonial relationship into one of free democratic association characterized by mutual economic benefits, shared constitutional values, and a common devotion to human dignity; and
- Whereas, on July 23, 1967, in a plebiscite in which the people of Puerto Rico were entitled to choose between Statehood, Independence, and the further improvement of the Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico, they voted to confirm and to develop further the Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico; and
- Whereas the people of Puerto Rico gave evidence, in the 1967 plebiscite, of their commitment to a permanent association with the United States, founded on common citizenship, common defense, common currency, and a common market, and capable of evolving to reflect the particular character, conditions, and aspirations of Puerto Rico; and
- Whereas the President of the United States and the Governor of Puerto Rico established the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico, and charged it with recommending ways to "develop the maximum of self-government and self-determination within the framework of Commonwealth"; and
- Whereas the Advisory Group has submitted its recommendations to the President of the United States and the Governor of Puerto Rico, calling for a new "Compact of Permanent Union" which reaffirms the union between the United States

and Puerto Rico, while giving further effect to the right of self-government in the people of Puerto Rico; Now be it

- 1 Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of
- 2 the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the
- 3 Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the
- 4 United States is approved as follows:
- 5 "COMPACT OF PERMANENT UNION BETWEEN PUERTO
- 6 RICO AND THE UNITED STATES
- 7 "SEC. 1. PUERTO RICO.
- 8 "The people of Puerto Rico constitute an autonomous
- 9 body politic organized by their own, free and sovereign will
- 10 and in common agreement with the United States under the
- 11 juridical structure and official name of the Free Associated
- 12 State of Puerto Rico, hereinafter referred to as Puerto Rico.
- 13 "The jurisdiction of Puerto Rico extends to the people
- 14 of, and to the lands and waters in, around, and appertaining
- 15 to the Island of Puerto Rico and adjacent islands.
- 16 "The people of Puerto Rico, a cultural community of
- 17 Hispanic language and tradition, citizens of the United
- 18 States as well as citizens of Puerto Rico, have repeatedly
- 19 affirmed in their Constitutional Convention, in referendums
- 20 and in a plebiscite, their resolve to live in permanent union
- 21 with the United States upon mutually satisfactory and just
- 22 bases.
- 23 "In fulfillment of the terms of that plebiscite and sub-

- 1 ject to the approval of the Congress of the United States
- 2 and the ratification in referendum by the people of Puerto
- 3 Rico, it is hereby agreed to reaffirm, to consolidate and to
- 4 improve the relationship already established, by means of
- 5 this Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and
- 6 the United States. In keeping with the above the people of
- 7 Puerto Rico reaffirm their commitment to the democratic
- 8 way of life, the republican form of government and their
- 9 respect for human values as embodied in the bill of rights of
- 10 the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution
- 11 of Puerto Rico.
- 12 "Sec. 2. Jurisdiction and Authority of Puerto
- 13 RICO.
- "(a) The right of the people of Puerto Rico to govern
- 15 themselves according to their own Constitution and laws, and
- 16 to make a compact with the United States is hereby recog-
- 17 nized.
- 18 "(b) In the exercise of the above rights and powers,
- 19 the people of Puerto Rico now propose:
- 20 "(1) To agree with the United States upon the
- 21 principles, provisions, and procedures set forth in this
- 22 Compact;
- 23 "(2) To agree upon the exercise by the United
- 24 States of the authority and powers specified in this Com-
- 25 pact;

- "(3) To reserve all other political and governmental authority to Puerto Rico or to the people of Puerto Rico;
- "(4) To recognize the Supreme Court of the United
 States as the final adjudicator of this Compact, including
 the decision whether the laws of the United States or the
 laws of Puerto Rico conform to this Compact and to the
 applicable provisions of the Constitution of the United

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States.

- "(C) Unless otherwise provided in or pursuant to this 9 Compact, the United States shall have and shall exercise re-10 sponsibility for and authority with respect to foreign affairs 11 12 and defense affecting Puerto Rico. Except as the President of 13 the United States may determine and advise the Governor 14 of Puerto Rico that such action is inimical to the foreign rela-15 tions of the United States, Puerto Rico may conclude educa-16 tional, cultural, health, sporting, professional, industrial, agricultural, financial, commercial, scientific, or technical agree-17 18 ments with foreign countries and may participate in specialized agencies of international organizations dealing with the 19 20 foregoing matters.
- 21 "Sec. 3. Common Citizenship—Its Rights and 22 Duties.
- "All persons born in Puerto Rico are citizens of the United States and have all the rights, privileges and immunities inherent in that citizenship as well as duties pertinent

- 1 thereto. While residing in Puerto Rico, they shall also enjoy
- 2 all the rights, privileges and immunities, and shall have all
- 3 the duties which the Constitution and laws of Pucrto Rico
- 4 confer and impose on its citizens. In case of a change of
- 5 residence to any state or other jurisdiction of the United
- 6 States, the citizens of Puerto Rico shall have in addition to
- 7 their rights and duties as citizens of the United States, all the
- 8 rights, privileges and immunities, as well as the duties of
- 9 citizenship established by the Constitution and laws of that
- 10 state or jurisdiction. Likewise, any citizen of the United
- 11 States who changes his residence to Puerto Rico shall, in
- 12 addition to his rights and duties as a citizen of the United
- 13 States, acquire all the rights, privileges and immunities as
- 14 well as the duties established by the Constitution and laws
- 15 of Puerto Rico.
- 16 "Sec. 4. Security and Common Defense.
- 17 "Laws of the United States relating to defense and
- 18 national security shall apply to Puerto Rico in accordance
- 19 with their terms. The President and the Governor will con-
- 20 sult and cooperate to facilitate the objectives of such laws.
- 21 "SEC. 5. CURRENCY.
- 22 "The currency of the United States shall be the exclu-
- 23 sive currency of Puerto Rico. The laws of the United States
- 24 relating to currency, coinage, gold and silver shall apply
- 25 to Puerto Rico, in accordance with their terms.

- 1 "SEC. 6. COMMON MARKET.
- 2 "(a) Economic, trade and commercial relations be-
- 3 tween the United States and Puerto Rico shall be conducted
- 4 within the framework of the common market between the
- 5 United States and Puerto Rico.
- 6 "Puerto Rico shall not impose tariffs, customs or duties
- 7 of any kind on articles imported into Puerto Rico from the
- 8 United States, nor shall the United States impose tariffs,
- 9 customs or duties of any kind on articles imported into the
- 10 United States from Puerto Rico.
- "(b) Except as hereinafter provided, laws of the United
- 12 States providing for tariff on articles imported from foreign
- 13 countries shall be applicable in Puerto Rico.
- 14 "(c) The proceeds of customs, duties, licenses for
- 15 imports, and tariffs collected in or in respect to imports into
- 16 Puerto Rico after deducting the expenses of such collections,
- 17 as well as all taxes collected in Puerto Rico or in the United
- 18 States under the internal revenue laws of the United States
- 19 on articles produced or manufactured in Puerto Rico and
- 20 transported to the United States or consumed in Puerto Rico,
- 21 shall be covered into the Treasury of Puerto Rico.
- 22 "(d) Puerto Rico shall continue to enjoy the right to
- 23 levy tariffs upon or otherwise to restrict the import of coffee
- 24 from foreign countries or the United States; and after prior
- 25 consultation and coordination with the Federal authorities

- 1 concerned, Puerto Rico may levy, increase, reduce or elimi-
- 2 nate tariffs and quotas on articles imported directly from
- 3 foreign countries or transshipped through the United States:
- 4 Provided, That mutually agreeable procedures shall be
- 5 established to:
- 6 "(1) avoid conflict with international obligation;
- 7 "(2) assure that articles containing foreign com-
- 8 ponents shipped or transshipped from Puerto Rico to
- 9 the rest of the United States customs territory conform
- to the customs, tariff and other laws of the respective
- 11 jurisdictions;
- 12 "(3) assure continuous communication and coordi-
- nation between the United States Executive Branch and
- 14 Puerto Rico on economic and trade policies and their
- implementation.
- "(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
- 17 Puerto Rico may import materials and articles duty free for
- 18 subsequent shipment and sale to other parts of the United
- 19 States customs territory provided that the F.A.S. (free at
- 20 side) shipping price contains at least 35% value added in
- 21 Puerto Rico.
- 22 "(f) In international trade negotiations, the United
- 23 States shall take into account Puerto Rico's stage of eco-
- 24 nomic development, and in agreement with Puerto Rico,
- 25 shall protect and promote its economic interests.

- 1 "Sec. 7. Lands and Navigable Waters.
- 2 "(a) Lands.
- 3 "All property which may have been acquired in Puerto
- 4 Rico by the United States under the cession of Spain in the
- 5 treaty of peace entered into on December 10, 1898, and
- 6 which has not been disposed of by the United States, shall
- 7 become the property of Puerto Rico; Provided, That the
- 8 United States may continue to use for public purposes that
- 9 property which is now being used for such purposes: Pro-
- 10 vided, further, That the President may from time to time,
- 11 convey to Puerto Rico any lands, buildings or interests in
- 12 lands or other property of the United States within the ter-
- 13 ritorial limits of Puerto Rico, however acquired, which in his
- 14 judgment are no longer necessary for the purposes of the
- 15 United States. The President of the United States, may from
- 16 time to time, accept by grant from Puerto Rico, any lands,
- 17 buildings or other interests or preperty which may be needed
- 18 for public purposes by the United States.
- 19 "(b) Navigable Waters and Submerged Lands.
- 20 "The harbor areas and navigable streams and hodies of
- 21 water in and around the Island of Puerto Rico and the adja-
- 22 cent islands together with the submerged land underlying
- 23 the same seaward to the limits of the continental shelf as may
- 24 now or hereafter be recognized by the laws of the United
- 25 States or international law as belonging to or appurtenant

- 1 to the United States or Puerto Rico, are and shall be the
- 2 property of Puerto Rico.
- 3 "Provided, That the laws of the United States for the
- 4 protection and improvement of the navigable waters of the
- 5 United States and the preservation of the interests of navi-
- 6 gation and commerce, shall continue in force as at present,
- 7 unless contrary agreed to: Provided, further, That nothing
- 8 contained in this Compact shall be construed so as to affect
- 9 or impair in any manner the terms or conditions of any
- 10 authorizations, permits or other powers heretofore lawfully
- 11 granted in or in respect of said waters and submerged laud
- 12 in and surrounding said Island and its adjacent islands by the
- 13 Secretary of Defense or other authorized officer or agent of
- 14 the United States.
- 15 "SEC. 8. INTERNAL REVENUE.
- "(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Sec-
- 17 tion and except for Internal Revenue laws imposing taxes
- 18 on articles produced or manufactured in Puerto Rico and
- 19 transported to the United States, the Internal Revenue laws
- 20 of the United States shall not have effect in Puerto Rico.
- 21 "(b) The income tax laws of the United States may be
- 22 applied to residents of Puerto Rico only with respect to
- 23 income derived from United States or foreign sources.
- 24 "Sec. 9. Reciprocity Provisions.
- 25 "(a) There shall exist full reciprocity between Puerto

- 1 Rico and the United States, the states of the Union and any
- 2 other body politic of the United States, concerning the
- 3 following:
- 4 "(1) Giving full faith and credit to official certi-
- 5 fication, documents and judicial proceedings;
- 6 "(2) Accepting and honoring rights of removal
- 7 and surrender of fugitives;
- 8 "(3) Mutually exempting from taxation the offi-
- 9 cial obligations issued under the authority of any of
- the jurisdictions referred to above.
- "(1) In the interests of cooperation and efficiency,
- 12 and when compatible with their legal responsibilities and
- 13 authority, officials of the departments and agencies of Puerto
- 14 Rico and officials of the departments and agencies of the
- 15 United States are directed to assist one another in the execu-
- 16 tion of their respective functions.
- 17 "Sec. 10. Representation of Puerto Rico.
- "(a) Puerto Rico shall be represented in the House of
- 19 Representatives of the United States by one representa-
- 20 tive, who shall be elected to that position according to the
- 21 laws of Puerto Rico. Said representative shall have a seat
- 22 in the House of Representatives of the United States and
- 23 shall receive official acknowledgment from all the depart-
- 24 ments of the Government of the United States upon pres-
- 25 entation by the Department of State of a certificate of elec-

- 1 tion issued by the Governor of Puerto Rico. Such repre-
- 2 sentative shall have the qualifications established for mem-
- 3 bers of the House of Representatives and shall have the
- 4 rights, privileges and immunities of such members as are
- 5 compatible with the Constitution of the United States and
- 6 shall have such powers and duties as may be provided by
- 7 the House of Representatives.
- 8 "(b) In case of a vacancy in said position, it will be
- 9 filled for the rest of the term according to the laws of Puerto
- 10 Rico.
- "Sec. 11. Applicability of Federal Laws.
- 12 "(a) The laws of the United States applicable to
- 13 Puerto Rico on the effective date of this Compact including
- 14 amendments of such laws, shall continue in effect except
- 15 and to the extent repealed or modified by this Compact or
- 16 incompatible with it.
- 17 "(b) Laws enacted after the effective date of this
- 18 Compact, by the Congress, shall not be applicable to Puerto
- 19 Rico except as provided in subsection (a) of this section,
- 20 or unless such laws are compatible with this Compact and
- 21 explicitly refer to Puerto Rico or are applicable to Puerto
- 22 Rico pursuant to the powers and functions expressly vested
- 23 in the United States pursuant to this Compact: Provided,
- 24 however, That prior to the enactment of any legislation appli-
- 25 cable to Puerto Rico, including any amendment of a law

applicable to Puerto Rico under subsection (a) of this sec-1 tion, the Governor of Puerto Rico shall be entitled to submit 2 to the President of the United States objections to the 3 applicability of said legislation to Puerto Rico, together 4 with a statement of reasons therefor. If the President, after 5 consideration of such objections, shall find that the application of said legislation to Puerto Rico is inconsistent with 7 this Compact, incompatible with its purposes, is not essential 8 to the interests of the United States, or will unduly impede 9 the development of Puerto Rico, the President, prior to en-10 actment thereof, may suspend the application of said legis-11 lation to Puerto Rico. In the event that the President shall 12 so order, he shall promptly advise the Congress thereof, 13 14 together with a statement of the reasons for his action. If the Congress by Concurrent Resolution adopted by a major-15 ity of the Members of each House within 60 legislative days 16 17 of the receipt of the President's message shall so provide, the suspension ordered by the President shall terminate as 18 provided in such Concurrent Resolution, but in the absence 19 of the adoption of such Concurrent Resolution, the legisla-20 tion specified in the President's order shall not be applicable 2122 to Puerto Rico. "(c) Rules, regulations and orders issued by the de-23

partments and agencies of the United States after the effec-

tive date of this Compact shall apply to Puerto Rico unless

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- 1 and except to the extent that they are incompatible with
- 2 this Compact. In the event that Puerto Rico shall notify
- 3 a department or agency of the United States that it objects
- 4 to the application of any such rule, regulation or order to
- 5 Puerto Rico, such rule, regulation or order shall not be
- 6 applicable to Puerto Rico unless and until the department
- 7 or agency shall find and declares that the application thereof
- 8 to Puerto Rico is necessary to the interests of the United
- 9 States and is compatible with this Compact. Any such
- 10 determination shall be subject to judicial review in accord-
- 11 ance with law.
- "SEC. 12. ASSIGNMENT OF FEDERAL FUNCTIONS TO
- 13 PUERTO RICO.
- 14 "(a) Except and to the extent that Congress may
- 15 otherwise provide, the President of the United States may
- 16 with the concurrence of the Governor of Puerto Rico from
- 17 time to time transfer to the Government of Puerto Rico the
- 18 total or partial performance of functions vested in the
- 19 United States by law.
- 20 "Except as otherwise agreed to, the Government of
- 21 Puerto Rico, its agencies and dependencies shall assume
- 22 the administrative expenses and responsibilities incident to
- 23 the performance of the transferred functions.
- 24 "In any such transfer, provision shall be made so
- 25 that the officials and employees of the Government of

- 1 the United States in charge of the functions on the date of
- 2 their transfer shall retain the rights previously acquired by
- 3 reason of their employment.
- 4 "(b) The Congress of the United States, in authoriza-
- 5 tion and appropriations legislation applicable to Puerto Rico,
- 6 shall, to the maximum extent consonant with the purposes
- 7 and objectives of the authorizations and the appropriations,
- 8 and subject to the rules of the United States Congress and
- 9 to such procedures as the Congress may provide, authorize
- 10 Puerto Rico to administer such legislation so that the use
- 11 of the appropriated funds may be adapted to the special
- 12 circumstances and conditions of Puerto Rico.
- 13 "Sec. 13. Improvement of Environmental
- 14 QUALITY.
- 15 "(a) The primary responsibility for protecting and im-
- 16 proving the environmental quality of Puerto Rico shall reside
- 17 in Puerto Rico.
- 18 "(b) Environmental regulations promulgated by Puerto
- 19 Rico shall be presumptively valid, and shall not be disap-
- 20 provided or superseded by Federal regulations unless they are
- 21 determined to be clearly injurious to the health and safety
- 22 of the people of Puerto Rico.
- 23 "SEC. 14. JOINT COMMISSION ON UNITED STATES-
- 24 Puerto Rico Relations.
- 25 "(a) There is hereby created a Joint Commission com-

- posed of six (6) members, three (3) members and their 1
- successors appointed by the President of the United States, 2
- and three (3) members and their successors to be appointed 3
- by the Governor of Puerto Rico according to law. Said ap-4
- pointees shall serve a term of two (2) years, subject to re-5
- appointment, and said Commission shall expire in 6 years 6
- from the effective date of this Compact. The Commission 7
- shall adopt its own internal regulations. 8

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- "(b) This Joint Commission shall assist in bringing the 9 legal and administrative relations between the United States 10 and Puerto Rico into further conformity with the fundamental 11 objectives of this Compact and, to that end, shall have the 12 following tasks:
 - "(1) The Commission shall study the desirability of retaining, modifying or eliminating the application of specific Federal laws to Puerto Rico, The Commission shall submit its report to the President and to the Governor. In the event that the President of the United States and the Governor of Puerto Rico shall concur with a recommendation in any such report for modification or discontinuance of the applicability of a particular law to Puerto Rico, the President shall transmit such recommendation to the Congress. Such recommendation shall become effective in accordance with its terms and shall have the force and effect of law unless the Congress by

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Concurrent Resolution adopted by a majority of the members of each House within 60 legislative days of the receipt of the President's message of transmittal shall otherwise provide.

"(2) The Commission shall also study other possible transfers of Federal functions to agencies of Puerto Rico in addition to such transfers as may be made pursuant to section 12 (a) and shall make pertinent recommendations. When such recommendation involve the transfer of major Federal functions to Puerto Rico, such recommendations shall be submitted to the President of the United States and the Governor of Puerto Rico. If both agree with the recommendations, the President shall by Executive Order provide for such transfer and shall transmit such Executive Order to the Congress. Any such Executive Order shall become effective at such time as it shall specify, unless either House of Congress, within ninety legislative days from receipt of the Executive Order, shall object.

"(3) The Commission shall also study, with the highest priority, the desirability of recommending a system of contributory payments from the Government of Puerto Rico to the Treasury of the United States, to be initiated at the appropriate time, in gradual ways which will not substantially impede the economic and

- 1 social development of Puerto Rico, based upon disburse-
- 2 ments which shall be made by the Legislature of Puerto
- Rico from the general fund or any other sources subject
- 4 to the legislative action of Puerto Rico.
- 5 "(c) The Commission shall have a professional and
- 6 technical staff and may use the services of the research and
- 7 consultative institutions which it deems convenient; and is
- 8 hereby authorized to request and receive the cooperation of
- 9 any department, agency, or bureau of the United States or
- 10 Puerto Rico.
- "(d) The Commission shall have an annual budget, to
- 12 be shared in equal parts by the Government of the United
- 13 States and the Government of Puerto Rico. The Commission
- 14 shall formulate its own budget proposal annually. There is
- 15 hereby authorized and there shall be appropriated by the
- 16 respective governments such sums as are necessary to suffi-
- 17 ciently fund the functions and operations of the Commission.
- 18 "Seo. 15. United States District Court.
- 19 "(a) There shall exist a United States District Court
- 20 for Puerto Rico whose jurisdiction shall be the same as that
- 21 of other District Courts of the United States, including the
- 22 jurisdiction over the naturalization of qualified aliens and
- 23 residents ir Puerto Rico.
- 24 "(b) The procedures, pleadings, and records shall be in
- 25 Spanish, unless the Court, in the interest of justice and the

- 1 effective administration of its work shall otherwise determine
- 2 in particular cases.
- 3 "(c) The selection of the jurors shall be conducted and
- 4 their qualifications shall be determined in accordance with
- 5 the laws of the United States: Provided, That the language
- 6 qualifications of jurors shall be consistent with subsection (b)
- 7 of this section.
- 8 "(d) The United States District Court shall not enjoin
- 9 the establishing or collecting of any tax imposed by the laws
- 10 of Puerto Rico.
- "(e) Actions instituted in the courts of Puerto Rico
- 12 may not be removable to a Federal court on the sole grounds
- 13 that the provisions of this Compact are in issue. The United
- 14 States District Court for Puerto Rico, unless it shall find that
- 15 the interests of justice otherwise require, shall abstain from
- 16 exercising jurisdiction in civil actions based upon alleged
- 17 acts or failure to act by officials of Puerto Rico, pending final
- 18 decision by the courts of Puerto Rico.
- "(f) Final judgments and decrees entered by the high-
- 20 est court of Puerto Rico in which decision could be had may
- 21 be reviewed by the Supreme Court of the United States in
- 22 like manner as final judgments and decrees rendered by the
- 23 highest court of a state in which decision could be had.
- 24 "Sec. 16. Entry of Aliens Into Puerto Rico.
- 25 "(a) Immigration laws, rules, regulations and pro-

- 1 cedures of the United States shall apply to Puerto Rico in
- 2 accordance with their terms: Provided, That unless and to
- 3 the extent that the Congress by Concurrent Resolution shall
- 4 otherwise expressly provide the President of the United
- 5 States and the Governor of Puerto Rico may from time to
- 6 time agree upon measures which will operate to limit the
- 7 number of aliens in specified categories who may be admitted
- 8 to Puerto Rico as permanent residents therein or which will
- 9 permit aliens in specified categories to be admitted to Puerto
- 10 Rico for specified periods or as permanent residents to meet
- 11 the needs of Puerto Rico.
- "(b) Nothing included in any of the provisions of this
- 13 section shall affect in any way the right of unimpeded transit
- 14 between the United States and Puerto Rico of citizens of the
- 15 United States.
- 16 "Sec. 17. Effective Date.
- "(a) In order to become effective, this Compact must
- 18 be approved by the Congress of the United States and by
- 19 the electorate of Puerto Rico in a Special referendum called
- 20 for that purpose by the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico.
- 21 "(b) The effective date of this Compact shall be as
- 22 determined by agreement between the President of the
- 23 United States and the Governor of Puerto Rico, provided
- 24 that the Compact shall become effective not later than one
- 25 year following its approval by the electorate.

1	"Sec. 18. Transition.
2	"Nothing in this Compact shall be deemed to interrupt
3	or impair the jurisdiction of the courts or quasi-judicial agen-
4	cies over matters pending before them at its effective date
5	nor to affect, until their normal expirations, any franchises,
6	permits and other grants issued prior to such effective date.
7	Actions by either the United States or Puerto Rico prior to
8	this Compact which would be lawful at its effective date shall
9	not be affected in any way by its approval.
10	"Sec. 19. Amendments.
11	"In order to respect the right of self-government guar-
12	anteed by this Compact, the United States agrees that the
13	provisions of this Compact may be modified only by mutual
14	agreement between the Government of the United States and
15	the Government of Puerto Rico, and with respect to the pro-
16	visions that regulate the fundamental relations between the
17	United States and Puerto Rico, namely:
18	"Sections:
19	"1—Puerto Rico
20	"2—Jurisdiction and Authority
21	"3—Common Citizenship
22	"4—Security and Common Defense
23	"5—Currency
24	"6-Common Market
25	"7-Legal Title to Lands

1	"9-Reciprocity Provisions
2	"10—Representation of Puerto Rico
3	"11—Applicability of Federal Laws
4	"16 (b) —Unimpeded Transit
5	"19—Amendments
6	with the approval of the electorate of Puerto Rico.".

94TH CONGRESS S. J. RES. 215

JOINT RESOLUTION

To establish a Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the United States, and for other purposes.

Mr. Mathias, Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Hugh Scott, Mr. Symington, and Mr. Williams Mr. HATTELD, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. HUM-PHREY, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. McGovern, Mr. Mansfield, By Mr. Jackson, Mr. Eagleton, Mr. Gravel,

SEPTEMBER 22, 1976

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs