

**SUBSTITUTE
Resolution**

A Resolution Supporting the Right to Self-Determination for the People of Puerto Rico, Expressing Opposition to the Puerto Rico Status Act, and Endorsing the Puerto Rico Self-Determination Act

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has been under United States jurisdiction since 1898 and it is the property of, but not part, of the United States, and laws passed by Congress apply in the island without the consent nor participation of the residents thereof; and

WHEREAS, the principle of self-determination is a cornerstone of international law, enshrined in the United Nations Charter, which guarantees all peoples the right to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development; and

WHEREAS, the Puerto Rican people have, through various referendums and public expressions, demonstrated a clear desire to address and resolve the island's political status; and

WHEREAS, the Puerto Rico Status Act has been introduced in the United States Congress, raising concerns among many Puerto Ricans and their allies regarding its approach to resolving the island's future political status; and

WHEREAS, the Puerto Rico Self-Determination Act proposes a process for Puerto Ricans to exercise their right to self-determination in a democratic and inclusive manner, offering a platform for Puerto Ricans to decide their future through a convention of elected representatives;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO:

1. **Supports Self-Determination:** We hereby express our strong support for the right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination.
2. **Opposes the Puerto Rico Status Act (H.R. 8393):** Due to concerns over its inadequacy in facilitating a fair and democratic process for the Puerto Rican people to determine their future, given the lack of critical information over status definitions, the controlling language of government operations, transitions, taxes, Puerto Rico's separate Olympic representation, citizenship, and other key matters.
3. **Endorses the Puerto Rico Self-Determination Act (H.R. 2070):** As a constructive approach to enabling the people of Puerto Rico to explore and decide upon their future political status through a democratic and participatory process.
4. **Encourages Federal Support:** That we encourage our federal representatives to support legislation and initiatives that align with the principles of self-determination and democracy for Puerto Rico.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this resolution be delivered to members of the Illinois congressional delegation, expressing the sentiment of the Illinois Legislature regarding the future status of Puerto Rico.

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Jessie Fuentes
Alderman, 26th Ward