

HR 8017

2019

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing March 2, 2019, as "Puerto
3 Ricans' United States Citizenship Day" in Florida.
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5 WHEREAS, on March 2, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson signed
6 the Jones-Shafroth Act, more commonly known as the Jones Act,
7 granting United States citizenship to the citizens of Puerto
8 Rico, and

9 WHEREAS, United States policymakers favored granting
10 citizenship to Puerto Ricans in order to support United States
11 permanence in Puerto Rico, to strengthen the governance of the
12 territory, and to forge a stronger bond with Puerto Rico, and

13 WHEREAS, the Jones Act of 1917, which conferred naturalized
14 citizenship, was replaced by the Nationality Act of 1940, which
15 extended the rule of jus soli, or birthright citizenship, to
16 Puerto Rico, thereby cementing United States citizenship as
17 permanent and irreversible for island-born Puerto Ricans and
18 their children for generations to come, and

19 WHEREAS, after a century of United States citizenship, the
20 main goal of the Jones Act to augment the bond with the people
21 of Puerto Rico has clearly been achieved, as more than 5 million
22 Puerto Ricans now reside stateside, and of those, 1 million
23 reside in the State of Florida, and

24 WHEREAS, as residents of Florida, Puerto Ricans actively
25 participate in public affairs and make significant cultural,

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26 | political, and social contributions, and

27 | WHEREAS, March 2, 2019, marks the 102nd anniversary of the
28 | Jones-Shafroth Act and the granting of United States citizenship
29 | to the people of Puerto Rico, NOW, THEREFORE,

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31 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
32 | Florida:

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34 | That March 2, 2019, is recognized as "Puerto Ricans' United
35 | States Citizenship Day" in Florida.