

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6211

To improve the collection and publication of statistics relating to the
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 2018

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Oversight and Government Reform, Education and the Workforce, Agriculture, the Judiciary, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To improve the collection and publication of statistics relating to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Puerto Rico Data Collection Equality Act of 2018”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—MATTERS RELATED TO FEDERAL STATISTICAL PROGRAMS

Sec. 101. Plan to include the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in Federal statistical programs.

Sec. 102. Statistics to be collected and reported by the Census Bureau.

Sec. 103. National Center for Education Statistics treatment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Sec. 104. National Agricultural Statistics Service treatment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Sec. 105. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

Sec. 106. National Center for Health Statistics treatment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Sec. 107. Bureau of Justice inclusion of Puerto Rico in justice statistics.

Sec. 108. Energy Information Administration treatment of Puerto Rico.

TITLE II—MATTERS RELATED TO THE PUERTO RICO INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

Sec. 201. Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics.

TITLE III—MATTERS RELATED TO PUERTO RICO'S ECONOMY

Sec. 301. Annual update of the Report on the Competitiveness of Puerto Rico's Economy.

Sec. 302. Effect of electric power on the economic growth of Puerto Rico.

1 **TITLE I—MATTERS RELATED TO** 2 **FEDERAL STATISTICAL PRO-** 3 **GRAMS**

4 **SEC. 101. PLAN TO INCLUDE THE COMMONWEALTH OF** 5 **PUERTO RICO IN FEDERAL STATISTICAL** 6 **PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) PLAN.—The head of the Interagency Council on
8 Statistical Policy shall develop a plan to collect and pub-
9 lish statistics regarding the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
10 in the same manner as statistics are collected and reported
11 by Federal agencies for the several States.

1 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The head of the Interagency
2 Council on Statistical Policy, in coordination with the
3 heads of appropriate Federal agencies, shall implement
4 the plan developed under subsection (a).

5 (c) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
6 of the enactment of this Act, and every two years there-
7 after, the head of the Interagency Council on Statistical
8 Policy shall submit to Congress a report which shall in-
9 clude—

10 (1) a description of the plan developed under
11 subsection (a); and

12 (2) information on the implementation of such
13 plan.

14 **SEC. 102. STATISTICS TO BE COLLECTED AND REPORTED**
15 **BY THE CENSUS BUREAU.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Bureau of the
17 Census, in consultation with the heads of appropriate Fed-
18 eral agencies, shall include statistics regarding the Com-
19 monwealth of Puerto Rico collected and reported by the
20 Bureau as part of the statistical programs described in
21 subsection (b).

22 (b) STATISTICAL PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.—The sta-
23 tistical programs described in this subsection include the
24 following:

25 (1) Census of Governments.

1 (2) Survey of Business Owners and Self-Em-
2 ployed Persons.

3 (3) Building Permits Survey.

4 (4) Quarterly Workforce Indicators.

5 (5) American Housing Survey.

6 (6) Construction Progress Reporting Survey.

7 (7) Housing Vacancy Survey.

8 (8) Manufactured Housing Survey.

9 (9) Value of Construction Put in Place Survey.

10 (10) Current Population Survey.

11 (c) NATIONAL ECONOMIC CENSUS.—The Director of
12 the Bureau of the Census shall—

13 (1) collect and report statistics regarding the
14 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the Economic
15 Census of Island Areas in a manner consistent, in
16 terms of both substance and timing, with the collec-
17 tion and reporting of statistics for the National Eco-
18 nomic Census; and

19 (2) not later than 1 year after the date of en-
20 actment of this Act, submit to Congress a report
21 recommending whether statistics regarding the Com-
22 monwealth of Puerto Rico should be included in the
23 National Economic Census rather than in the Eco-
24 nomic Census of Island Areas.

1 **SEC. 103. NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS**
2 **TREATMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF**
3 **PUERTO RICO.**

4 The Secretary of Education, acting through the Na-
5 tional Center for Education Statistics, shall, to the max-
6 imum extent practicable, collect and publish data for the
7 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in the same manner as
8 data is collected and published for the several States.

9 **SEC. 104. NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**
10 **TREATMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF**
11 **PUERTO RICO.**

12 (a) SURVEYS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO
13 RICO.—The Administrator of the National Agricultural
14 Statistics Service shall—

15 (1) include, to the maximum extent practicable,
16 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in the surveys
17 conducted by the Service; and

18 (2) in the case of agricultural data collection
19 that cannot be carried out under the surveys de-
20 scribed in paragraph (1), identify an alternative
21 method of collecting such data from the Common-
22 wealth of Puerto Rico.

23 (b) REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF SURVEYS IN THE
24 COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO.—Not later than 1
25 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Ad-
26 ministrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service

1 shall submit a report to Congress that includes rec-
 2 ommendations on the feasibility of conducting surveys in
 3 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

4 **SEC. 105. SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERV-**
 5 **ICES ADMINISTRATION: NATIONAL SURVEY**
 6 **ON DRUG USE AND HEALTH.**

7 Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment
 8 of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the Assistant
 9 Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use shall sub-
 10 mit to each committee of the Congress a report on the
 11 status of efforts to include the populations of the Com-
 12 monwealth of Puerto Rico and the other territories of the
 13 United States in the National Survey on Drug Use and
 14 Health for fiscal year 2019 and subsequent fiscal years.

15 **SEC. 106. NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS**
 16 **TREATMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF**
 17 **PUERTO RICO.**

18 Section 306 of the Public Health Service Act (42
 19 U.S.C. 242k) is amended—

20 (1) by redesignating subsection (n) as sub-
 21 section (o); and

22 (2) by inserting after subsection (m) the fol-
 23 lowing:

24 “(n) In carrying out this section, the Secretary, act-
 25 ing through the Center, shall take all reasonable steps to

1 collect, evaluate, and make available information with re-
 2 spect to the populations of the Commonwealth of Puerto
 3 Rico and the other territories to the same extent as the
 4 Secretary collects, evaluates, and makes available informa-
 5 tion with respect to the populations of the several States.”.

6 **SEC. 107. BUREAU OF JUSTICE INCLUSION OF PUERTO**
 7 **RICO IN JUSTICE STATISTICS.**

8 Section 302(d) of the Omnibus Crime Control and
 9 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10132(d)) is amend-
 10 ed by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

11 “(3) INCLUSION OF PUERTO RICO IN JUSTICE
 12 STATISTICS.—To the extent practicable, the Director
 13 shall gather information from Puerto Rico in car-
 14 rying out the statistical collection, analysis, and dis-
 15 semination functions of the Bureau.”.

16 **SEC. 108. ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION TREAT-**
 17 **MENT OF PUERTO RICO.**

18 The Secretary of Energy, acting through the Admin-
 19 istrator of the Energy Information Administration, shall
 20 annually update the data and information included on the
 21 website of the Energy Information Administration in order
 22 to ensure, to the extent practicable, that the data and in-
 23 formation included on the website with respect to Puerto
 24 Rico is as inclusive and complete as the data and informa-
 25 tion included on the website with respect to any State.

1 **TITLE II—MATTERS RELATED TO**
2 **THE PUERTO RICO INSTITUTE**
3 **OF STATISTICS**

4 **SEC. 201. PUERTO RICO INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS.**

5 (a) COVERED TERRITORIAL INSTRUMENTALITY.—

6 The Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics is deemed to be
7 a covered territorial instrumentality subject to the require-
8 ments of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2101, et seq.).

9 (b) REPORT ON INSTRUMENTALITY BUDGET FUND-
10 ING LEVEL.—Not later than December 31 of the first full
11 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and of
12 each year thereafter, the Oversight Board of Puerto Rico
13 shall submit to Congress a report on the Oversight
14 Board’s rational, with supporting documentation, for the
15 funding level for the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics
16 in the most recent approved budget.

17 (c) INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE AVAILABLE IN
18 ENGLISH.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the
19 enactment of this Act, the Puerto Rico Institute of Statis-
20 tics shall—

21 (1) make all communications, publications, in-
22 formation, and other records of the institute created
23 after the date of the enactment of this Act available
24 in English to the same or a greater extent as those
25 materials are available in Spanish; and

1 (2) publish a plan to make all communications,
 2 publications, information, and other records of the
 3 institute created before the date of the enactment of
 4 this Act available in English to the same or a great-
 5 er extent as those materials are available in Spanish.

6 **TITLE III—MATTERS RELATED**
 7 **TO PUERTO RICO’S ECONOMY**

8 **SEC. 301. ANNUAL UPDATE OF THE REPORT ON THE COM-**
 9 **PETITIVENESS OF PUERTO RICO’S ECONOMY.**

10 The Federal Reserve Bank of New York shall annu-
 11 ally update the report titled “Report on the Competitive-
 12 ness of Puerto Rico’s Economy” (published June 29,
 13 2012).

14 **SEC. 302. EFFECT OF ELECTRIC POWER ON THE ECONOMIC**
 15 **GROWTH OF PUERTO RICO.**

16 The Secretary of Energy, acting through the Admin-
 17 istrator of the Energy Information Administration, shall
 18 annually submit to Congress a report on the cost and
 19 unreliability of electric power in Puerto Rico and how such
 20 cost and unreliability affects the economic growth of Puer-
 21 to Rico.

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