



**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PUERTO RICO**

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National Committeewoman

June 22, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Joseph Leahy  
Chairman  
United States Senate  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

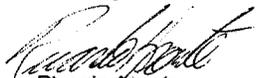
Dear Senator Leahy:

Greetings from the United States Territory of Puerto Rico.

On June 13<sup>th</sup> the Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Puerto Rico unanimously approved a resolution in support of the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the United States Supreme Court, the highest court in our Nation.

We hereby submit a copy of the aforementioned resolution for inclusion in the record. Thank you for the opportunity to contact the Committee on this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Ricardo Aponte  
Executive Director



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**RESOLUTION**

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PUERTO RICO CONGRATULATES JUDGE SONIA SOTOMAYOR FOR HER NOMINATION TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT, SUPPORTS HER CONFIRMATION AND URGES FOR A FAIR AND BALANCED SENATE CONFIRMATION PROCESS.

WHEREAS, Puerto Ricans have been U.S. citizens by birth since 1917; and

WHEREAS, for the first time in the history of the Supreme Court a Puerto Rican has been nominated to the highest court in our Nation.

WHEREAS, Sonia Sotomayor has served as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit since October 1998.

WHEREAS, she was appointed to the District Court for the Southern District of New York by President George H.W. Bush.

WHEREAS, in spite of the challenges of growing up in a housing project without financial resources she has become a role model for all Puerto Rican Americans in the mainland and the island. to younger generations about the opportunities available for all Puerto Ricans throughout our Nation.

WHEREAS, she was born to a Puerto Rican family, and grew up in a public housing project in the Bronx after her family relocated to New York City during World War. Her father was a factory worker with a third-grade education, who died when Sotomayor was nine years old. Her mother, a nurse, then raised Judge Sotomayor and her brother.

WHEREAS, her mother impressed upon Judge Sotomayor and her brother the importance of an education and as she grew up graduated as valedictorian of her class at Blessed Sacrament and at Cardinal Spellman High School in New York.

WHEREAS, Judge Sotomayor went on to Princeton University for her undergraduate studies, graduating *summa cum laude*, and then Yale Law School, where she served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal and as managing editor of the Yale Studies in World Public Order.

WHEREAS, Judge Sotomayor has extensive experience in the practice of law and has served as a judge for two decades, having been nominated to the bench by both a Republican and a Democratic President.

*Supporting Statehood for Puerto Rico*

WHEREAS, the Republican Party of Puerto Rico calls on all Senators to conduct a confirmation process based solely on questions regarding her experience, decisions, jurisprudence, judicial temperament and the role of the Supreme Court.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PUERTO RICO supports the confirmation of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the United States Supreme Court and calls for a fair and thorough confirmation process of Judge Sonia Sotomayor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Puerto Rico extends its warmest congratulations to Judge Sonia Sotomayor for her accomplishment and urges her to serve as a voice for the 4 million disenfranchised U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico as we seek full citizenship rights.

(Adopted by Republican Party of Puerto Rico on June 13, 2009)