§ 731b. Organization of a government pursuant to a constitution

Fully recognizing the principle of government by consent, sections 731b to 731e of this title are now adopted in the nature of a compact so that the people of Puerto Rico may organize a government pursuant to a constitution of their own adoption.

(July 3, 1950, ch. 446, § 1, 64 Stat. 319.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Puerto Rican Federal Relations Act which comprises this chapter.

REPEALS

Section 6 of act July 3, 1950 provided that: ''All laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this Act [enacting sections 731b to 731e of this title] are hereby repealed.''

§ 731c. Submission of sections 731b to 731e of this title to people of Puerto Rico for referendum; convening of constitutional convention; requisites of constitution

Sections 731b to 731e of this title shall be submitted to the qualified voters of Puerto Rico for acceptance or rejection through an island-wide referendum to be held in accordance with the laws of Puerto Rico. Upon the approval of said sections, by a majority of the voters participating in such referendum, the Legislature of Puerto Rico is authorized to call a constitutional convention to draft a constitution for the said island of Puerto Rico. The said constitution shall provide a republican form of government and shall include a bill of rights.

(July 3, 1950, ch. 446, § 2, 64 Stat. 319.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Puerto Rican Federal Relations Act which comprises this chapter.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

A constitutional convention to draft a constitution for the island of Puerto Rico convened in San Juan on Sept. 17, 1951, and concluded its deliberations on Feb. 6, 1952.

REFERENDUM

Act July 3, 1950, which enacted sections 731b to 731e of this title, was submitted to the qualified voters of Puerto Rico through an island-wide referendum held on June 4, 1951, and approved.

§ 731d. Ratification of constitution by Congress

Upon adoption of the constitution by the people of Puerto Rico, the President of the United States is authorized to transmit such constitution to the Congress of the United States if he finds that such constitution conforms with the applicable provisions of sections 731b to 731e of this title and of the Constitution of the United States.

Upon approval by the Congress the constitution shall become effective in accordance with its terms.

(July 3, 1950, ch. 446, § 3, 64 Stat. 319.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Puerto Rican Federal Relations Act which comprises this chapter.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO

Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was approved by the Constitutional Convention of Puerto Rico on Feb. 6, 1952; ratified by the people of Puerto Rico on Mar. 3, 1952; amended and approved by Congress by Joint Res. July 3, 1952, ch. 567, 66 Stat. 327; proclaimed by the Governor of Puerto Rico to be in force and effect on July 25, 1952.

§ 731e. Chapter continued in force and effect

This chapter is continued in force and effect.

(July 3, 1950, ch. 446, § 4, 64 Stat. 319.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original ''the Act entitled 'An Act to provide a civil government for Porto Rico, and for other purposes,' approved March 2, 1917, as amended'', meaning act Mar. 2, 1917, ch. 145, 39 Stat. 951, as amended, known as the Puerto Rican Federal Relations Act and also popularly known as the Jones Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 731 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Puerto Rican Federal Relations Act which comprises this chapter.

§ 732. Repealed. July 3, 1950, ch. 446, § 5(2), 64 Stat. 320

Section, acts Mar. 2, 1917, ch. 145, § 4, 39 Stat. 953; May 17, 1932, ch. 190, 47 Stat. 158, designated San Juan as the capital of Puerto Rico. Section 6 of act Apr. 12, 1900, ch. 191, 31 Stat. 79, formerly cited as a credit to this section, was not repealed by act July 3, 1950.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Section 5 of act July 3, 1950, provided that the repeal of this section and sections 735, 750, 753, 754, 771–793, 793b, 796–799, 811–820, 822, 823, 824–844, 861, and 873 of this title and the amendment of sections 737 and 752 of this title were to be effective at such time as the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico became effective. Under section 731d of this title, that Constitution, upon approval by the Congress of the United States, ''shall become effective in accordance with its terms''. Congress, by act July 3, 1952, ch. 567, 66 Stat. 327, approved, with certain conditions, that Constitution; the approving act further provided that the Constitution, as so approved, ''shall become effective when the Constitutional Convention of Puerto Rico shall have declared in a formal resolution its acceptance in the name of Puerto Rico of the conditions of approval herein contained, and when the Governor of Puerto Rico, being duly notified by the proper officials of the Constitutional Convention of Puerto Rico that such resolution of acceptance has been formally adopted, shall issue a proclamation to that effect''. The Constitution was proclaimed by the Governor of Puerto Rico on July 25, 1952, and became effective on that date.

§ 733. Citizens; former Spanish subjects and children; body politic; name

All inhabitants continuing to reside in Puerto Rico who were Spanish subjects on the 11th day of April 1899, and then resided in Puerto Rico, and their children born subsequent thereto, shall be deemed and held to be citizens of Puerto Rico, and as such entitled to the protection of the United States, except such as shall have elected to preserve their allegiance to the Crown of Spain on or before the 11th day of April 1900,