

156TH HOUSE  
1ST SESSION

# H.R. 2

To allow for the admission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico into the State of Jackson.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DATE: August 15, 2022

Congressman Zach LeMaire (for himself, Governor Rosen), proposed this bill to the House and was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

---

# **A BILL**

To allow for the admission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico into the State of Jackson.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in  
Congress assembled,*

## **Section 1. Short Title**

- A. This Act may be cited as the “Puerto Rico Admission Act”.

## **SEC. 2 - Findings**

- A. On August 12, 2022, the Secretary of State delivered a letter to Congress and the Jackson Assembly stating that it was the intention of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to join the State of Jackson via referendum. Upon further communication with the Puerto Rican government, it was found that the results of this referendum were indeed valid.

## **SEC. 3 - Statement of Policy**

- A. Whereas it was the declared intention of the people of Puerto Rico to join the State of Jackson, this bill would authorize the State of Jackson to incorporate the entire Commonwealth of Puerto Rico into the State under the Constitution of the United States and the United States Code.

## **SEC. 4 - Authorization**

- A. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States, the State of Jackson is authorized to incorporate the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in its entirety.

## **SEC. 5 - Equal Footing Clause**

- A. Pursuant to the Equal Footing Doctrine as stated in the decision of *Pollard's Lessee v. Hagan*, 44 U.S. (3 How.) 212 (1845), the State of Jackson is required to admit the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on equal footing as all currently existing territories within the State.

## **SEC. 6 - Conflicting Laws**

- A. All laws that conflict with this one are hereby null and void.

## **SEC. 7 - WHEN EFFECTIVE**

- A. This Act shall take effect immediately upon passage.