

Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on Senator Frank S. Lujan's political letter entitled Commonwealth and Consequence of January 30, 1974.

I will speak only for myself, thus a personal opinion.

The 1972 election in Puerto Rico showed that over 1,000,100 voters enjoy and are proud of the Federal sovereignty of U.S. over Puerto Rico.

Only a handful of voters, Socialists and independentists voted against it. Of course, these are leftists who enjoy being with Cuba's Castro and predict the Communists' ideas.

Senator Lujan used the words "harsh" about the relationship of U.S. and P.R. In my opinion there is nothing harsh about it, at all. The Puerto Rican poor live in high rise buildings worth million of dollars, they pay according to their income ranging from \$1 to \$150 a month. They are able to receive food and money from welfare funds. They can live a peaceful as well as lazy life if they choose. The reason for this is the million of dollars poured in from the Federal Funds of U.S.

As far as unemployment is concerned, I disagree with the word used "Chronic." The world has many lazy people. In P.R., like in the rest of the world there is laziness. When cold weather reaches the eastern part of U.S., layoffs start in most factories. Since unemployment benefits can be collected in P.R. lots of workers lay idle for the lay off period, living like tourists. On the local scene, very few people work the land, although land is very fertile. Also the politician throughout the island hire only their political affiliated voters. Therefore, unemployment figures are fictitious, created by politicians, laziness and unemployed tourists.

I could go on and on Mr. Lujan, but I understand your article and I have labeled it a free political advertisement.

I can not standstill when you say that a Commonwealth agreement is a mistake. I lived in P.R. and enjoyed the Commonwealth status. In 21 years P.R. has become a picture window for the rest of the world. It has become a rich island, where professionals and laymen live next to each other.

Rascism is practically unknown, education is of the highest caliber. In fact, the island of Puerto Rico has been labeled by many "The paradise of the Caribbean."

All forms of Government have Pros and Cons, some have internal ills, but for Puerto Rico the Commonwealth Status has worked wonders. Thus I favor it for Puerto Rico and will favor it for Guam.

Yours truly,

/s/ Jose P. Perez
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