

Take Action: Mobilize

Mobilizing for Puerto Rico statehood is critical to help the movement gain attention and support from others. By attending meetings and planning events you will be drawing positive attention to the Puerto Rico statehood cause, creating opportunities to pressure politicians or elected officials forcing them to participate or react, and showing the media that we are an active, nation wide civil rights and voting rights movement.

Attend a meeting

Most government and elected officials hold public meetings, town halls or rally's every once in a while to gather their supporters, give public statements, and answer questions. These present good opportunities to raise the issue of Puerto Rico statehood, express your support and ask your elected officials to actively support statehood too.

Find meetings

• Follow your Representative and Senators on social media and sign up for their email blasts both on their official and campaign accounts. This way you will be notified if and when they are holding meetings or rally's in your area.



• Go to your city or town's website and find out when they have meetings that allow public comments use those as a speaking opportunity to raise awareness of the Puerto Rico statehood issue, and to ask your local officials to make an expression of support by making a public declaration or passing a resolution calling on Congress to pass Puerto Rico statehood legislation.

Bringing up statehood

While you're at the meeting, event, or rally make sure to find an opportunity to talk to the elected official about Puerto Rico statehood.

Bird dogging- This is a strategy used to get a politicians opinion on a topic publicly where they can't avoid or change the subject.

- 1. Study the members position on the issue or related issues
- 2. Prepare your questions beforehand. Make sure you are asking a yes or no question.

- 3. If time permits, share a story about how the current state of Puerto Rico affects you and others.
- 4. Take note of anything they say related to statehood. Or better yet have someone else take video of the response that the elected official provides so that if its favorable you can share it on social media.
- 5. If journalists are there, speak to them about the issue.

Plan or participate in an event

Planning a statehood themed event is a fun way to get together with other advocates and celebrate.

Plan an event:

- 1. Pick a day- Find a reason to celebrate. (e.g. Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Labor Day, Constitution Day, Flag day, etc.)
- 2. Find a location- Pick a place to hold the event depending on what you are gathering for. (e.g. Public park, party room, rooftop)
- 3. Invite advocates- Spread to word and invite your fellow Puerto Rico statehood advocates and their friends.
- 4. Get supplies- Make a list of everything you'd need and find the materials
- 5. Document the day-Take pictures and videos to post on social media. Use relevant hashtags to draw attention to the movement.



Participate in an event:

- 1. Find an event- Identify local political events that align with the values and principles of the Puerto Rico statehood movement which include: Equality, Democracy, Voting Rights, Patriotism, Veterans, etc.
- 2. Prepare-Think about some talking points for when you are there. You can find statehood talking points on the <u>Take Action: Educate tab</u> on our website
- 3. Talking to advocates- Because the people attending the event will have similar beliefs it'll be easy to talk to them about statehood.
- 4. Network- Make connections with the people there and invite them to future statehood events or to be part of the Puerto Rico Statehood Action Network.

Plan a Demonstration

<u>Planning a demonstration</u> is highly rewarding. The Puerto Rico Statehood Action Network is here to help you. Reference the document linked under this one on the Take Action page for instructions.

