



Progress PR Pressures U.S. Senate to Take Action

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Media Advisory – IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On Thursday [Progress Puerto Rico](#) ramped up pressure on the U.S. Senate to expedite passage of vital disaster relief legislation for Puerto Rico. Following an initial [pre-recess] call to immediately fund and disperse allocated funds to the island [Progress Puerto Rico ratcheted pressure this week targeting legislation stalled in the U.S. Senate.](#)

The [Senate Action](#) effort calls on our national base of over 6,500 supporters to take action in strategically targeting a bi-partisan group of U.S. Senators in Florida and Pennsylvania. Supporters are asked to contact the offices of **Senators Marco Rubio, Rick Scott, Pat Toomey and Bob Casey Jr.** to push forward the following 7 priorities meant to end continued delays and alleviate suffering on the island.

1. Increase the federal government's cost share of Puerto Rico's disaster funding from 90% to 100%
2. Demand **HUD** set rules, allocate and immediately disperse approved funds to Puerto Rico.
Approximately \$8.5 billion in allocated but not yet dispersed funds
3. Approve \$500 million in additional funding for the **Community Development Block Grant** to help cover cost share on relief projects in Puerto Rico that the President has refused to waive.
4. Immediately increase + issue funding for the Puerto Rican **Nutrition Assistance Program**.
Remove the cap for NAP in Puerto Rico + make it equal to states!
5. Approve proportional funding for Medicaid in Puerto Rico.
6. Allocate + disperse funds to repair Puerto Rico's damaged water infrastructure, restore sewer systems and rebuild the electric grid in Puerto Rico.
7. Approve additional supplemental funding of over \$100 million to dredge **Caño Martín Peña** to clear and prevent future flooding of the channel.

Progress Puerto Rico founder Isabel Villalón issued the following statement:

"As disaster relief legislation passed in the House and headed to the Senate we knew that it would take real pressure to ensure the interests of our island were addressed. Following that legislation stalling in the Senate over providing needed funds to Puerto Rico it was obvious further action was vital to ensuring an end to the delay as well as passage of a bill that reflects the priorities, immediate needs and interests of Puerto Rico. We won't stand idle while our island and people continue to needlessly suffer. We're targeting both the Democrat and Republican Senators in Florida and Pennsylvania to end these delays in order to advance progress where and when its needed most."

Progress Puerto Rico PAC is the nation's leading federal committee and non-partisan volunteer led movement solely dedicated to politically amplifying the voice of puertorriqueños both on and off the island at the federal level. Our goal is to fill the historic void and desperate need for electoral advocacy in order to protect and advance the interests of the island and people of Puerto Rico.

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