



BACARDI U.S.A., INC.

November 12, 2015

Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Building Washington, DC 20515

Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Committee
2142 Rayburn House Office
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Leahy, Chairman Goodlatte, and Ranking Member Conyers:

On behalf of Bacardi U.S.A., Inc.'s employees across the United States, we would like to express our support for the Puerto Rico Chapter 9 Uniformity Act of 2015, S.1774 and H.R. 870. This legislation would allow Puerto Rico municipalities and public corporations to seek protection under Chapter 9 bankruptcy similar to the authority that states have now. In addition to our sales and marketing offices across the United States. Bacardi distills all of Bacardi rum for the U.S. market in Puerto Rico where we have maintained a rum distillery since the 1930's and bottles all of that rum in Jacksonville, Florida. In addition, we maintain numerous sales and marketing offices across the United States.

As you know, Puerto Rico is experiencing a significant debt crisis that could have effect beyond the island. Puerto Rico has \$73 billion in government debts and its economic future is unclear. We understand that the Commonwealth will not be able to pay its creditors unless this public debt is restructured. These bills will allow Puerto Rico to authorize its municipalities to restructure its finances as a last resort. While not solving the economic crisis entirely, the federal legislation would provide a path to recovery for Puerto Rico.



BACARDI U.S.A., INC.

We are concerned about our employees and operations in Puerto Rico and the effect of its economic crisis may have on our day-to-day operations in the U.S. For Bacardi, these issues are intertwined and we hope Congress will respond to provide needed assistance to Puerto Rico and its U.S. citizens. We urge you to support the Puerto Rico Chapter 9 Uniformity Act and thank you for its consideration before the Judiciary Committees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Pete Carr
Regional President – North America