



MR. CARLOS J. 'JOHNNY' MÉNDEZ NÚÑEZ

Mr. Carlos J. 'Johnny' Méndez Núñez is the thirty-first and current Speaker of the Puerto Rico State House of Representative which began its Eighteen Legislative Session on January 9, 2017. He represents the 36th District, which cover the municipalities of Fajardo, Luquillo, Río Grande, Ceiba and Vieques. Méndez Núñez, a staunch supporter of statehood for Puerto Rico, is affiliated to the New Progressive Party.

He owns a Bachelors in Arts in Labor and Employment Relations, with a Minor Degree in Business Administration, from the University of Puerto Rico. He also holds a Juris Doctor Professional Degree from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico.

His professional career started back in 1986 when he accepted an administrative position at Training and Employment Program in the Municipality of San Juan, the Island's capital. A year later, he went to work for the Legal Division of the Medical Services Administration of Puerto Rico. In 1989 he was recruited by the Mayor of the Municipality of Fajardo, Aníbal Meléndez Rivera, to work as Director of the Office of Federal Affairs. After that, he occupied several

positions within the City Administration. Then, in 1997 he became the Executive Director of the Northeast Consortium, a post he held until the year 2004.

Méndez Núñez was first elected to the Puerto Rico House of Representatives in the 2004 general election. During his first term, he served as President of the Commission of Employment and Labor Relations. He also served as Vice-president of the Commissions of Law, Municipal Affairs, and others. After easily being reelected in 2008, he was appointed as President of the Government Commission. In February 25, 2011, he was elected by his colleagues as Majority Speaker. He was reelected for a third term at the 2012 general election. He won a fourth term in last year's elections.

Among its legislative priorities are improving the Island's special education programs, provide the mechanisms to jump start the economy, create new and better jobs and to complete his lifelong goal: equality to all of the American Citizens residing in Puerto Rico which will be achieved through the admission of Puerto Rico as the fifty first state of the Union.

