

**Committee on Natural Resources  
Oversight Hearing  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
May 2, 2019  
10:00 am**

Hearing on “*The Status of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA): Lesson Learned Three Years Later.*”

**Questions from Rep. Mike Johnson** for Ms. Natalie Jaresko, Executive Director, Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico

1. Ms. Jaresko, in your testimony, you note that Puerto Rico law enforcement officers have slower response times than that of their U.S. mainland counterparts. As you know, Puerto Rico saw a spike in crime in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria as police officers called in sick to protest a lack of payment for overtime service. In your view, why were officers not paid what they were owed in Puerto Rico? Was this due to a lack of funds or a misuse of funds?
2. According to the World Bank, the labor force participation rate in the United States is 62%. Puerto Rico’s labor force participation rate measures 41%, and the island’s labor force participation rate was low even before the 2017 hurricane season—it measured 45% in 1990. What factors do you believe contribute to this discrepancy between Puerto Rico and the United States as a whole?
3. The FOMB has now been in place for three years. What are the top structural reforms that must be enacted to bring long-term economic stability to Puerto Rico?