



HR0254

LRB102 18251 MST 25919 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1960, the United States government imposed a
3 strict economic, commercial, and financial embargo on the
4 Republic of Cuba; and

5 WHEREAS, On December 17, 2014, U.S. President Barack Obama
6 and Cuban President Raul Castro agreed to reestablish
7 diplomatic relations between the two countries, as well as
8 cooperation between them on certain matters of mutual
9 interest; and

10 WHEREAS, Nevertheless, despite executive decisions by
11 President Obama that eased some restrictive regulations, the
12 main portions of the embargo affecting trade and travel
13 continue in force; and

14 WHEREAS, Full restoration of trade and travel between the
15 two countries would be of great benefit to both, particularly
16 in the areas of food production, education, health care,
17 tourism, the arts, music, sports, and medical and
18 biotechnological research; and

19 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois would greatly benefit by
20 the restoration of trade with the Republic of Cuba, which
21 would permit the export of industrial and agricultural

1 products to the neighboring nation of 11 million people and
2 the importation of Cuban products useful to Illinois, such as
3 the life-saving medicines Herberprot-p and CIMAvax; and

4 WHEREAS, Institutions and businesses in Illinois have
5 expressed a strong interest in selling their products and
6 services to Cuba, importing Cuban products, and cooperating
7 with Cuban institutions in the areas of the development of
8 pharmaceuticals and medical devices and procedures and
9 biomedical research, to the benefit of our citizens; and

10 WHEREAS, The people of Illinois are negatively affected by
11 these restrictions, which violate their right to travel and
12 which harm economic opportunities for our people that enhanced
13 trade with Cuba would bring us; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we denounce the embargo and travel restrictions as prejudicial
17 to the interests of the people of Cuba, the United States, and
18 Illinois and as a violation of the rights of U.S. citizens and
19 residents to travel and ascertain the real situation in Cuba
20 for themselves; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we urge President Biden to renew engagement
22 with the Republic of Cuba, as initiated by the Obama

1 administration, and rescind restrictive regulations, as well
2 as restaff the Cuban embassy in Washington, D.C. and the U.S.
3 embassy in Havana; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That we urge the United States Congress to pass
5 legislation finally ending the harmful 59-year-old economic,
6 financial, and commercial embargo, as well as the travel
7 restrictions on U.S. citizens and residents to Cuba and Cuban
8 citizens to the United States; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That this resolution be distributed to the
10 Illinois Congressional Delegation and President Biden with the
11 urgent request that they act upon it as soon as possible.