

Senator Meekhof offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 70.

A resolution to urge and request the Congress of the United States to develop and improve trade relations with Cuba.

Whereas, To conduct a study analyzing economic opportunities relative to Cuba, and to make a report of the findings of the study; and

Whereas, The Michigan Senate clearly recognizes the current financial climate in this state and the immediate need to develop and foster all beneficial economic opportunities; and

Whereas, The international commercial market routinely changes in conjunction with economic globalization, evolutions in technology, and perpetual legal and political factors. It is necessary to explore and cultivate international economic opportunities; and

Whereas, Global production and distribution channels are of utmost importance to consumers and producers in addition to state and national economies; and

Whereas, The United States has recently taken steps to rebuild trade relations with Cuba by addressing long-standing regulations and restrictions imposed on Cuban trade, travel and carrier services, telecommunications, and financial industries; and

Whereas, A mutually beneficial relationship between Michigan and Cuba, fostering economic growth and job creation for both parties, that is consistent with the outcomes of Michigan's new and old international trading partners; and

Whereas, Michigan has many established and burgeoning industries which would yield positive outcomes that would only be made available with an easing of sanctions and trade barriers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body do hereby urge and request the Congress of the United States to develop and improve trade relations with Cuba; and be it further

Resolved, That Congress develop and improve trade relations with Cuba, and conduct a study on the potential benefits on business with the Republic of Cuba to be made public upon its completion; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.