

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 78

Senators Zorn and Barrett offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare support for the people of Cuba in
2 their fight against a destructive Communist regime and to urge the
3 United States government and the Biden Administration to take
4 action to protect the basic human rights of the Cuban people.

5 Whereas, Communist Miguel Díaz-Canel rose to power in Cuba in
6 2018 and continues to follow the failed policies of Fidel and Raúl
7 Castro. President Díaz-Canel's ascension has coincided with an
8 economic crisis that led to a heavy-handed and nonsensical shutdown
9 of the state-run communication system and purposeful electricity
10 outages; and

11 Whereas, The Cuban people lack the freedom to be in charge of
12 their own destiny and future as a result of the systemic and
13 continued repression they face at the hands of the Díaz-Canal

1 regime; and

2 Whereas, A historic and remarkable gathering of protests is
3 occurring in Cuba, where everyday Cubans are courageously demanding
4 democracy, liberty, economic security, food, and basic medical
5 necessities. Liberty in Cuba is defined as not only economic
6 liberty, but also civil liberties. This includes the right to vote,
7 liberty of conscience, and the right to self-determination. At the
8 heart of these protests is the will of Cuban people to be in charge
9 of their own destiny; and

10 Whereas, Without democracy and free elections, the welfare of
11 the Cuban people will continue to be structurally burdened and
12 protests will continue. As the Communist regime continues to
13 deprive the people of Cuba of peaceful means to improve their
14 lives, everyday Cubans will continue to risk their lives and well-
15 being to protest openly to demand immediate change; and

16 Whereas, Michigan is a state that values our best aspirational
17 American ideals of liberty, tolerance, and freedom. These are the
18 ideals and values that Cubans march for today. The people of
19 Michigan support the right of the people of Cuba to peacefully
20 protest to secure basic civil liberties, and stand with the people
21 of Cuba in support of their quest for democracy, liberty, and
22 freedom; now, therefore, be it

23 Resolved by the Senate, That we declare support for the people
24 of Cuba in their fight against a destructive Communist regime and
25 urge the United States government and the Biden Administration to
26 take action to protect the basic human rights of the Cuban people;
27 and be it further

28 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
29 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States

- 1 House of Representatives, the President of the United States
- 2 Senate, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.