

HM 727

2015

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the President of the United States and
3 the Congress of the United States expressing profound
4 disagreement with the decision of the President to
5 restore full diplomatic relations with Cuba, opposing
6 the opening of a consulate or any diplomatic office in
7 this state, and urging the upholding of the embargo.

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9 WHEREAS, On December 17, 2014, the President of the United
10 States announced that this country would restore full diplomatic
11 relations with the nation of Cuba after more than 50 years of
12 unconcealed hostility, and

13 WHEREAS, the Cuban people have been under the crushing yoke
14 of a brutal communist dictatorship since 1959, led first by
15 Fidel Castro and more recently by his brother Raul, and

16 WHEREAS, the actions of the Castro brothers have resulted
17 in the impoverishment of the Cuban people and a complete and
18 blatant disregard for human rights and democratic principles by
19 the government of that nation, and

20 WHEREAS, under the Castro brothers, Cuba has been an active
21 and ominous threat to the vital interests of the United States
22 and all peace-loving nations, as members of Cuba's military and
23 diplomatic corps have worked assiduously to promote violent,
24 anti-democratic revolutions across the globe, and

25 WHEREAS, the diplomatic initiative announced by the
26 President involved the release of U.S. government subcontractor

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27 | Alan Gross by Cuba after 5 years of detention due to the absurd
28 | and unfounded allegation of the Cuban government that he was a
29 | spy, and the release by the United States of three convicted
30 | Cuban spies linked to terrorist activities in this country, and

31 | WHEREAS, numerous respected public officials, both
32 | Democratic and Republican, at the federal and state levels have
33 | denounced this restoration of diplomatic relations and strongly
34 | believe that it will do nothing to free the Cuban people from
35 | the poverty and injustice they have suffered for more than a
36 | half century and that it will only serve to support a tottering,
37 | bankrupt dictatorship, and

38 | WHEREAS, the residents of this state are all too familiar
39 | with the viciousness of the Castro regime due to the presence of
40 | millions of Cuban-born men and women who fled from a regime
41 | intent on stealing their property and putting them at the
42 | service of a brutal military government, as they outlawed
43 | religious expression, and indoctrinated children to engage in
44 | espionage against their own family members, and

45 | WHEREAS, these men and women are heartbroken over how the
46 | Castro brothers have destroyed the culture and economic vitality
47 | of their beloved island homeland, and

48 | WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper for the members of the
49 | Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives to
50 | express profound disagreement with the decision of the President
51 | of the United States to restore full diplomatic relations with
52 | Cuba, NOW, THEREFORE,

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54 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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56 That we express profound disagreement with the decision of
57 the President of the United States to restore full diplomatic
58 relations with Cuba, oppose the opening of a Cuban consulate or
59 any diplomatic office in this state, and urge the Congress of
60 the United States to uphold the embargo until such a time when
61 this arcane dictatorship is no longer in power and the most
62 basic human and civil rights are once again recognized in Cuba.

63

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
65 dispatched to the President of the United States, the President
66 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
67 Representatives, and each member of the Florida delegation to
the United States Congress.