



HR 9157

2003

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution condemning the recent upsurge of repressive
3 measures against freedom-seeking citizens in Cuba.

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5 WHEREAS, on March 17, 2003, the Cuban government launched a
6 repressive onslaught on members of Cuba's pro-democracy
7 movement, as over 80 dissidents, including pro-democracy
8 activists, independent journalists, and independent librarians,
9 were unjustly incarcerated in what is considered the biggest
10 internal crackdown in the country since the 1960's, and

11 WHEREAS, the government arbitrarily searched the homes and
12 confiscated personal belongings of pro-democracy activists;
13 raided the homes of independent librarians, removing and
14 destroying their publications; engaged in massive arrests and
15 carried out summary trials to expeditiously sentence leaders and
16 participants in such movements as the Assembly to Promote Civil
17 Society and the popular Varela Project, which calls for a
18 nationwide vote concerning democratic reforms; and incarcerated
19 independent journalists and librarians, and

20 WHEREAS, as recently as April 11, three men accused of
21 seizing a ferry in an attempt to escape to the United States
22 were executed before a firing squad within a week after they
23 were arrested and convicted and their sentences were upheld, and

24 WHEREAS, the Castro regime continues to violently oppose
25 the quest by Cuban citizens to gain such universally recognized
26 rights as the freedoms of speech, assembly, association,
27 movement, and the press and the right to due process, all while
28 Cuba is a member of the United Nations Commission on Human
29 Rights, and



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30 WHEREAS, the Commission on Human Rights recently passed a
31 resolution requesting that Cuba allow a representative of the
32 commission to visit the country in order to investigate the
33 human rights situation and issue a report thereon, and

34 WHEREAS, the Cuban government has repeatedly violated the
35 rights espoused by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and
36 the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights and has violated
37 the mandates issued by the United Nations Commission on Human
38 Rights, NOW, THEREFORE,

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40 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
41 Florida:

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43 That the House of Representatives vehemently condemns the
44 brutal repression by the Cuban Government of its citizens'
45 efforts to gain internationally recognized human rights and
46 fervently supports the right of the Cuban people to exercise
47 fundamental political and civil liberties.