

By Senator Rodriguez

37-00895-18

20181382\_\_

Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
requesting Congress to urge President Nicolás Maduro  
to allow the delivery of humanitarian assistance and  
requesting Congress to continue and intensify  
financial sanctions against President Nicolás Maduro  
and the government of Venezuela and instruct  
appropriate federal agencies to hold President Nicolás  
Maduro and officials of the government of Venezuela  
accountable for violations of law and abuses of  
internationally recognized human rights.

WHEREAS, the hallmark of democracy is the free and peaceful  
exercise of rights guaranteed under the constitution of a  
democratically elected government, and

WHEREAS, in an effort to secure his personal rule and  
oppress Venezuelan freedoms, President Nicolás Maduro  
manipulated elections, established a congress under his control,  
nationalized private industry, abandoned private property  
rights, and generally assumed control over Venezuela's  
government and its institutions, and

WHEREAS, the deterioration of basic governance and the  
economic crisis in Venezuela have led to an unprecedented  
humanitarian situation in which people are suffering from severe  
shortages of basic food products and essential medicines, and

WHEREAS, despite the massive shortages of basic food  
products and essential medicines, President Nicolás Maduro has  
rejected repeated requests from civil society organizations to  
bring humanitarian aid into the country, and

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30 WHEREAS, more than 8 million Venezuelans voted symbolically  
31 for a free and democratic government, and

32 WHEREAS, President Nicolás Maduro has sought to silence  
33 peaceful opposition to his government by killing innocent  
34 citizens of Venezuela for their political views, and

35 WHEREAS, those who cherish democratic principles condemn  
36 the perpetration of oppression and intimidation against the  
37 Venezuelan people, and

38 WHEREAS, to ensure the demise of such oppression and  
39 intimidation, it is imperative that the United States Government  
40 remain committed to continuing and intensifying financial  
41 sanctions against President Nicolás Maduro and the government of  
42 Venezuela, and

43 WHEREAS, the people of Florida stand proudly with the  
44 people of Venezuela in the face of tyranny, NOW, THEREFORE,

45  
46 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

47  
48 That the Congress of the United States is requested to urge  
49 President Nicolás Maduro to allow the delivery of humanitarian  
50 assistance and is further requested to continue and intensify  
51 financial sanctions against President Nicolás Maduro and the  
52 government of Venezuela and to direct appropriate federal  
53 agencies to hold President Nicolás Maduro and officials of the  
54 government of Venezuela accountable for violations of law and  
55 abuses of internationally recognized human rights.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
57 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
58 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the

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59 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
60 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.