

By Senator Diaz

36-01686-19

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Senate Resolution

A resolution expressing solidarity with the people of Venezuela in their pursuit of a strong and stable democratic government under which they may enjoy the political freedoms and economic security that are the hallmarks of democracy.

WHEREAS, Venezuela was once a rich and prosperous country with a stable democratic form of government, recognized as South America's economic powerhouse because of its bountiful natural resources, and

WHEREAS, since 1998, when Hugo Chávez first came into power, and continuing today under the brutal dictatorship of Nicolás Maduro, Venezuela has become a shadow of its former self, crippled by an economic collapse that has resulted in shortages of food and the suspension of essential services, and

WHEREAS, the current dictatorship has robbed the Venezuelan people of their freedom of press, freedom of speech, and the right to peaceful assembly, and

WHEREAS, United States Senator Marco Rubio and President Donald J. Trump have joined other world leaders in calling for the recognition of Juan Guaidó as Venezuela's new president in light of his promise to re-establish the Constitution of Venezuela, which would guarantee and promote political rights, including the right to assemble for political purposes, for the people of Venezuela, and

WHEREAS, democracy is a necessary condition for the peace, stability, and development of Venezuela and the well-being of the Venezuelan people, NOW, THEREFORE,

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31 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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33 That the Senate expresses solidarity with the people of
34 Venezuela in their pursuit of a strong and stable democratic
35 government under which they may enjoy the political freedoms and
36 economic security that are the hallmarks of democracy.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate calls for the
38 recognition of Juan Guaidó as Venezuela's new president.