

By Senator Taddeo

40-01050-22

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Senate Resolution

A resolution expressing solidarity with the Cuban people as they peacefully demonstrate for fundamental freedoms and condemning the Cuban government's brutal repression of demonstrators and members of the foreign press.

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2021, for the first time since the rise of the repressive, Stalinist-style communist dictatorship of Fidel Castro in the 1960s, the Cuban people began massive grassroots demonstrations demanding fundamental rights and freedoms, and

WHEREAS, Cuban president and Communist Party Secretary Miguel Díaz-Canel responded by calling for civilian-on-civilian violence and directing police to violently attack protesters and duly credentialed foreign press photographers and camera operators who were documenting the protests, and

WHEREAS, the regime cut off Internet access to impede the truth about the crackdown from reaching the outside world, officially characterizing the protestors as criminals and paid agents of foreign governments and unleashing special military units against peaceful civilians, and

WHEREAS, it is believed that as many as 8,000 peaceful protestors and activists were detained, most without due process, many were beaten and subjected to sham trials and sentences, and hundreds are still detained, and

WHEREAS, the regime has not accepted any responsibility for the conditions that led to the protests, including shortages of food and medicine, rising prices due to inflation, and

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30 widespread power outages, and continues to blame the embargo  
31 imposed by the United States for the extreme hardship endured by  
32 the Cuban people, ignoring the need for fundamental change, NOW,  
33 THEREFORE,

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

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37 That the Senate expresses solidarity with the Cuban people  
38 as they peacefully demonstrate for fundamental freedoms in the  
39 face of tyranny and condemns the Cuban government's brutal  
40 repression of demonstrators and members of the foreign press.