

Introduced by

Senators Stenehjem, Flakoll, O'Connell

Representatives Berg, Boucher, Nicholas

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to allow for the travel of United States citizens to and  
2 from Cuba and to allow direct banking transfers between the United States and Cuba for the  
3 purchase of American-made products by Cuba.

4 **WHEREAS**, in 1962 the United States imposed economic sanctions on Cuba; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000  
6 reauthorized direct commercial cash-only sales of agricultural products, food, and medicine to  
7 Cuba; and

8 **WHEREAS**, many of the primary commodities produced in the United States are valued  
9 and sought after by the citizens of Cuba; and

10 **WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that sales of this state's agricultural products alone to Cuba  
11 could surpass \$37.8 million annually and provide employment for more than 1,000 individuals;  
12 and

13 **WHEREAS**, while some humanitarian and educational groups, journalists, and  
14 diplomats are allowed to visit Cuba each year, many other American citizens are not, thereby  
15 hindering efforts to expand trade with Cuba; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the United States prohibits direct banking transfers between this country  
17 and Cuba for the purchase of American-made products by Cuba, thereby reducing the level of  
18 product sales; and

19 **WHEREAS**, a recent ruling by the United States Department of the Treasury's Office of  
20 Foreign Assets Control requiring payment for United States agricultural exports in advance of  
21 shipment to Cuba threatens to jeopardize accords and terminate agricultural trade with Cuba;

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,**  
23 **THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:**

1           That the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges Congress to allow for the travel of  
2 United States citizens to and from Cuba and to allow direct banking transfers between the  
3 United States and Cuba for the purchase of American-made products by Cuba; and

4           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this  
5 resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the  
6 United States Secretary of Agriculture, the majority and minority leaders of the United States  
7 Senate and the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the North  
8 Dakota Congressional Delegation.