US-CUBA LABOR SOLIDARITY

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A Resolution Calling Upon the United States Government to Normalize Diplomatic and Economic Relations with Cuba

WHEREAS, beginning in October 1960, the United States government imposed an economic, commercial and financial embargo on Cuba that not only prevents most engagement and trade with the United States, but also punishes other countries that continue to engage with Cuba; and

WHEREAS, this embargo continues to inflict extreme hardship on the Cuban people by creating shortages of food and medicine, severely restricting financial and trade opportunities and has even prevented Cuba from obtaining medical equipment and supplies to address the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, both the Cuban government and the United Nations have estimated that the embargo has cost the Cuban economy \$130 billion over six decades; and

WHEREAS, in December 2014, President Barack Obama and then-Cuban President Raúl Castro announced that they would begin normalizing relations between the two countries and would establish diplomatic relations, an agreement that was enthusiastically embraced by the Cuban people; and

WHEREAS, President Obama removed Cuba from the United States state sponsors of terrorism list; and

WHEREAS, most Americans, including Cuban Americans, oppose the United States embargo and 43 municipal, county and labor bodies – representing more than 41 million people – have passed resolutions calling for medical and scientific collaboration with Cuba and ending the embargo, and tens of thousands have visited the island when travel restrictions were relaxed; and

WHEREAS, since the outbreak of COVID-19, Cuba has sent 3,700 health workers in 52 international brigades to over 40 countries overwhelmed by the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Cuba has developed five internationally recognized candidate COVID-19 vaccines. and has vaccinated 98% of its 11.3 million people, Cuba is now producing millions more doses to meet its commitment to provide low-cost vaccines to countries in the Global South, along with technology transfer where possible for production in low-income countries and extending medical brigades to build medical capacity and training for vaccine distribution in partner countries, and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration imposed 243 new sanctions upon Cuba, including restrictions on Cuban-Americans to send remittances to families and businesses in Cuba, and reinstated Cuba to the state sponsor of terrorism list; and

WHEREAS, for each of the last 29 years, the United Nations General Assembly has overwhelmingly voted to support the end of the United States blockade against Cuba; and

WHEREAS, despite campaign promises, President Biden has failed to reverse the sanctions that former President Trump imposed on Cuba; and

WHEREAS, ______stands in solidarity with workers in Cuba and throughout the world;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that ______ urge(s) President Biden to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba, including restoring the full operations of the United States Embassy in Havana; and that the well-being of the Cuban people shall be the centerpiece of United States policies towards Cuba; and

Be It Further Resolved that _____urge(s) President Biden and Congress each federal representative in its jurisdiction to call on the federal government to remove Cuba from the United States list of state sponsors of terrorism; and to immediately close the United States military base at Guantanamo Bay and return the occupied territory in Guantanamo to Cuba; and

Be It Further Resolved that ______ urge(s) President Biden and Congress to immediately reverse all sanctions against Cuba by the United States and end all aspects of the United States embargo against Cuba, including restrictions on travel to Cuba by U.S. citizens and residents, so that the peoples of Cuba and the United States can freely travel between the countries.

Be It Further Resolved that ______ educate and mobilize its members against these inhumane and unjust policies against Cuba; and

Be It Further Resolved that ______ contact the City Councils and Boards of Supervisors within its jurisdiction to support this resolution and pass similar resolutions; and

Be It Further Resolved that ______bring a resolution to the [district, international, convention], in support of ending U.S. sanctions against Cuba; and

Be It Further Resolved that ______issue press releases regarding the details of this resolution to its media contacts within its jurisdiction. support needed to pass a resolution.

Layout designed by César Omar Sánchez. Photos Courtesy by CGTN and Scott Olson/Getty Images





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