
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8029

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Rasmussen, Swecker, Hewitt, Sheahan, Prentice, Honeyford, Hargrove, Spanel, Hale, Brown, Snyder, Haugen, McAuliffe and Kline

Read first time 01/16/2002. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & International Trade.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Washington state is one of the leading agricultural states
9 in the nation and has a vested interest in promoting and expanding its
10 agricultural market to Cuba; and

11 WHEREAS, Washington is the fourth largest exporting state of the
12 United States, ranking among the top ten states for thirty-five
13 separate commodities; and

14 WHEREAS, Washington state ranks twelfth in the nation for
15 agricultural products, accounting for approximately twenty-nine billion
16 dollars of this state's total economy; and

17 WHEREAS, There are currently not enough apple, wheat, and potato
18 markets in Washington state; and

19 WHEREAS, Washington state and Cuba have historical economic ties;
20 and

1 WHEREAS, Polling results have indicated that an overwhelming
2 majority of American people support the normalization of relations with
3 Cuba; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative George Nethercutt sponsored the Trade
5 Sanction Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000, 22 U.S.C. Sec.
6 7201-7209, P.L. 106-387, to liberalize United States sanctions on
7 exports of our agricultural commodities to Cuba; and

8 WHEREAS, Initial sales of agricultural commodities have been made
9 to Cuba, but continuing United States restrictions limit full access to
10 the Cuban market; and

11 WHEREAS, Lack of economic access with neighboring countries weakens
12 the agricultural market in Washington state; and

13 WHEREAS, Expanding agricultural trade will benefit both the people
14 of Cuba and America; and

15 WHEREAS, The Senate and the House of Representatives of the state
16 of Washington are committed to working diligently toward the goal of
17 full normalization of relations between the United States of America
18 and the Republic of Cuba;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully petition Congress
20 and the President of the United States to end the policy of
21 restrictions on trade with Cuba.

22 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
23 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
24 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
25 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
26 Washington.

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