



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 26, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to express our deep concern about the threat Cuba's communist dictatorship poses to the national security of the United States and the stability of the Western Hemisphere. As members of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere responsible for congressional oversight of U.S. policy in the region, we strongly urge you to implement a Cuba policy that holds the regime accountable for its continued human rights abuses and direct support for authoritarian regimes in the region.

The list of human rights violations by Cuba's communist regime is extensive and includes the suppression and torture of political dissidents without due process or adherence to the rule of law. Further, political dissidents are held in notoriously atrocious prison conditions. The Cuban people are also denied access to independent news information and the internet is highly restricted and monitored by the state.

The Cuban dictatorship also has a history of exporting its oppressive system and undermining the region's democracies. There is no clearer example of this today than in Venezuela, where Cuba directly supports the Maduro regime's human rights abuses and violent suppression of political dissent. Support for the Maduro regime in Venezuela contributes to instability in the region and facilitates the operations of transnational criminal and terrorist organizations that threaten U.S. national security interests. The United States must not tolerate these malign activities.

Given the serious nature of the threat posed by the Cuban dictatorship, we urge you to maintain the policies enacted by the previous administration and not revert to the failed appeasement policy of the Obama Administration.

Now more than ever, it is critical that the United States take the steps necessary to restrict the flow of U.S. dollars to the Cuban military, maintain designations that hold the regime accountable for human rights abuses and support for global terrorism, and continue support for democracy on the island. Polls consistently showed that a majority of Cuban Americans

supported the previous administration's uncompromising stance against the totalitarian Cuban government.

The United States must always stand on the side of freedom and democracy and we look forward to working with you to support these freedoms in Cuba and throughout the Western Hemisphere.

Sincerely,



MARK E. GREEN
Ranking Member, WHEM



MARIA E. SALAZAR
Member of Congress



AUGUST PFLUGER
Member of Congress

CC: Secretary of State Antony Blinken