

**H.RES. 381 • MAY 15, 1999**

**RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY THE  
GOVERNMENT OF CUBA AND REPRISALS BY THE  
CUBAN GOVERNMENT AGAINST THOSE CUBAN  
CITIZENS WHO TESTIFIED BEFORE THE CUBA  
WORKING GROUP OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**Prime Sponsor: Mr. Christopher H. Smith (NJ)**

*H.Res. 381 – Agreed to by the House on May 15, 1990*

## H.RES.381

**Whereas the United States Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1989 finds that the Government of Cuba engages in the systematic abuse of human rights;  
(Engrossed as Agreed to or Passed by House)**

HRES 381 EH

### H. Res. 381

*In the House of Representatives, U. S.,  
May 15, 1990.*

Whereas the United States Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1989 finds that the Government of Cuba engages in the systematic abuse of human rights;

Whereas the report indicates that human rights conditions in Cuba have worsened significantly in 1989;

Whereas, pursuant to United Nations Human Rights Commission decision 1988/106 in March 1988, the commission undertook a review of Cuban human rights practices by the Cuba Working Group of the United Nations Human Rights Commission;

Whereas, in response to international pressure, the Government of Cuba invited a delegation of the United Nations Human Rights Commission to Cuba to investigate the status of human rights, offered to guarantee the Cuba Working Group representatives free and unhindered access to the people of Cuba, and promised that Cubans who presented testimony to the United Nations representatives would not be punished;

Whereas the Government of Cuba has since engaged in an effort to punish human rights defenders, a number of whom were interviewed by representatives of the Cuba Working Group of the United Nations Human Rights Commission;

Whereas more than 60 human rights activists have been arrested or detained since the Cuba Working Group concluded its investigation in September 1988;

Whereas Cuban human rights activists, including Enrique Acosta Ruiz, Tania Diaz Castro, Alfredo Samuel Martinez Lara, Elizardo Sanchez Santa Cruz, Hiram Abi Cobas, Javier Roberto Bahmonde Masot, and David Moya Alfonso have been arrested and forced to serve prison terms for their legitimate human rights activities;

Whereas the Government of Cuba has denied internationally-recognized human rights monitors access to the trial of a number of human rights leaders;

Whereas such arrests and imprisonments constitute a pattern of harassment and intimidation aimed at those Cuban human rights activists and Cuban citizens who cooperated with the Cuba Working Group;

Whereas, on March 6, 1990, the United Nations Human Rights Commission approved a resolution citing its concerns regarding the human rights situation in Cuba;

Whereas President Fidel Castro announced that the Government of Cuba refuses to comply with a single provision of the resolution;

Whereas, after adoption of the United Nations Human Rights Commission resolution, at least 11 human rights activists have been arrested and others have been harassed and threatened; and

Whereas it is in the interest of all parties to ensure that nations do not undermine the efforts of the United Nations Human Rights Commission: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives--

- (1) commends the United Nations Human Rights Commission for extending the mandate of the Cuba Working Group with regard to the human rights situation in Cuba;
- (2) condemns the Government of Cuba for engaging in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally-recognized human rights against the Cuban people and deplors the continued systematic harassment of Cuban human rights activists;
- (3) calls upon the Government of Cuba to honor its repeated guarantees that individuals who testified before representatives of the Cuba Working Group of the United Nations Human Rights Commission would not be subject to reprisals, detentions, or negative consequences of any nature whatsoever;
- (4) urges the Government of Cuba to release all human rights activists and other political prisoners; and
- (5) calls upon the Government of Cuba to meet universally-recognized standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Attest:

Clerk.