

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2687

To withhold United States assessed and voluntary contributions to the Organization of American States (OAS) if Cuba is allowed full membership or participation in the OAS unless the President certifies that Cuba has satisfied certain conditions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 3, 2009

Mr. MACK (for himself, Mr. SIRES, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To withhold United States assessed and voluntary contributions to the Organization of American States (OAS) if Cuba is allowed full membership or participation in the OAS unless the President certifies that Cuba has satisfied certain conditions, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Cuba is currently excluded from participa-
6 tion in the Inter-American system, as adopted by

1 Resolution VI during the Eighth Meeting of Con-
2 sultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in
3 Punta del Este, Uruguay, in 1962.

4 (2) According to section 105 of the Cuban Lib-
5 erty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of
6 1996 (Public Law 104–114), “[t]he President
7 should instruct the United States Permanent Rep-
8 resentative to the Organization of American States
9 to use the voice and vote of the United States to op-
10 pose ending the suspension of the Government of
11 Cuba from the Organization until the President de-
12 termines under section 203(c)(3) that a democrat-
13 ically elected government in Cuba is in power.”.

14 (3) The Inter-American Democratic Charter
15 states that “the peoples of the Americas have a right
16 to democracy and their governments have an obliga-
17 tion to promote and defend it.”.

18 (4) According to the most recent Department of
19 State Country Reports on Human Rights Practices,
20 citizens in Cuba do not have the right to change
21 their government, and the regime retaliated against
22 those individuals who sought peaceful political
23 change.

24 (5) The Report continues that hundreds of po-
25 litical prisoners are currently being held, including

1 “peaceful activists, journalists, union organizers, and
2 opposition figures . . .” and that “mistreatment of
3 political prisoners and detainees was widespread[,
4 and] [b]eatings were not uncommon.”.

5 (6) The Report further indicates that elections
6 in Cuba are “neither free nor fair.”.

7 **SEC. 2. CERTIFICATION REGARDING CUBA’S PARTICIPA-**
8 **TION IN THE OAS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—If the Government of Cuba is al-
10 lowed full membership or participation in the Organization
11 of American States (OAS), for each fiscal year beginning
12 after the date of the enactment of this Act until the Presi-
13 dent transmits to Congress a certification that the require-
14 ments described in subsection (b) have been satisfied, the
15 Secretary of State shall, with respect to each such fiscal
16 year, withhold assessed and voluntary contributions to the
17 Organization of American States.

18 (b) CERTIFICATION.—The certification referred to in
19 subsection (a) is a certification made by the President to
20 Congress that there is a government in Cuba that—

21 (1) has legalized all political activity and polit-
22 ical parties;

23 (2) has released all political prisoners;

24 (3) has dissolved the present Department of
25 State Security in the Cuban Ministry of the Interior;

1 (4) has made public commitments to organizing
2 free and fair elections for a new government;

3 (5) has complied with the Inter-American
4 Democratic Charter;

5 (6) has ceased any interference with Radio
6 Marti or Television Marti broadcasts;

7 (7) has made public commitments to and is
8 making demonstrable progress in—

9 (A) establishing an independent judiciary;

10 (B) respecting internationally recognized
11 human rights and basic freedoms as set forth in
12 the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
13 and

14 (C) allowing the establishment of inde-
15 pendent trade unions, and allowing the estab-
16 lishment of independent social, economic, and
17 political associations;

18 (8) does not include Fidel Castro or Raul Cas-
19 tro;

20 (9) has given adequate assurances that it will
21 allow the speedy and efficient distribution of assist-
22 ance to the Cuban people; and

23 (10) has complied with other applicable provi-
24 sions of section 205 of the Cuban Liberty and

- 1 Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996
- 2 (Public Law 104–114).

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