

**RESOLUTION 23-01**

**RESOLUTION SEEKING AN END TO THE UNITED STATES' ECONOMIC,  
COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL EMBARGO AGAINST CUBA**

WHEREAS, in 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed an embargo on trade between the United States and Cuba, which remains in place today; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. embargo against Cuba continues to inflict hardship on the people of Cuba by creating shortages of food, medicines, and financial and trade opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, the City of Bloomington adopted Resolution 98-19 to support the development of a Sister City relation between the citizens of Bloomington and Santa Clara, Cuba, which was visited by three city council members (Hopkins, Pizzo and Gaal) shortly after; and

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2014, U.S. President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro announced a new era of relations between the two countries and agreed to reestablish diplomatic relations, with each country's respective embassy reopening the following year; and

WHEREAS, restrictions on trade and travel to Cuba were more severely restricted under the Trump administration, including cessation of flights from the U.S. to Santa Clara; and

WHEREAS, the formerly-waived Title III of the 1996 Helms-Burton Act went into effect under President Donald Trump, as did designation of Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism, creating devastating results for Cubans and undermining trade between Cuba and other sovereign nations; and

WHEREAS, over the last 30 years, the United Nations General Assembly has repeatedly called for an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the U.S. against Cuba, most recently in November 2022 through a vote to condemn the embargo, which received a vote of 185 countries supporting the condemnation, two countries opposing it (the U.S. and Israel), and two countries abstaining (Brazil and Ukraine); and

WHEREAS, in a July 12, 2021 statement, President Joseph Biden said he stood with the Cuban people as they protested the Cuban regime, yet has not done all he could to reduce their suffering; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the people of the United States believe the embargo is ineffective, inhumane, and in violation of U.S. laws and international conventions; and

WHEREAS, trade and cultural exchanges between the U.S. and Cuba are mutually beneficial to both countries in music, art, tourism, healthcare, education, and biotechnological and medical research; and

WHEREAS, resolutions calling for an end to the embargo have been adopted by Richmond, Oakland, Berkeley, and Sacramento, California; Seattle, Washington; Helena, Montana; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota; Detroit, Michigan; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Brookline, Massachusetts; and Hartford, Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The City of Bloomington hereby calls for an immediate end to the United States' economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba, including restrictions on travel to Cuba by U.S. citizens and removal of Cuba from the list of state sponsors of terrorism.

SECTION 2. The City of Bloomington urges President Biden to renew negotiations with the Cuban government as initiated by past Presidents to build a new, cooperative relationship between the United States and Cuba.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall send a copy of this resolution, duly adopted, to the Indiana Congressional delegation and the President of the United States.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 18 day of January, 2023.



SUE SGAMBELLURI, President  
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:



NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk  
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 18 19 day of January, 2023.



NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk  
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2023.

  
JOHN HAMILTON, Mayor  
City of Bloomington

#### SYNOPSIS

This resolution is co-sponsored by Councilmembers Rollo and Sandberg. It calls for the end of the United States' embargo against Cuba and directs the City Clerk to send copies of the resolution to the Indiana Congressional Delegation and the President of the United States.

Distributed to: Clerk, Council Attorney, Legal, Mayor, Indiana Congressional Delegation, and President Joe Biden.