

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4021

(Senators Stenehjem, Flakoll, O'Connell)
(Representatives Berg, Boucher, Nicholas)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to allow for the travel of United States citizens to and from Cuba and to allow direct banking transfers between the United States and Cuba for the purchase of American-made products by Cuba.

WHEREAS, in 1962 the United States imposed economic sanctions on Cuba; and

WHEREAS, the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 reauthorized direct commercial cash-only sales of agricultural products, food, and medicine to Cuba; and

WHEREAS, many of the primary commodities produced in the United States are valued and sought after by the citizens of Cuba; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that sales of this state's agricultural products alone to Cuba could surpass \$37.8 million annually and provide employment for more than 1,000 individuals; and

WHEREAS, while some humanitarian and educational groups, journalists, and diplomats are allowed to visit Cuba each year, many other American citizens are not, thereby hindering efforts to expand trade with Cuba; and

WHEREAS, the United States prohibits direct banking transfers between this country and Cuba for the purchase of American-made products by Cuba, thereby reducing the level of product sales; and

WHEREAS, a recent ruling by the United States Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control requiring payment for United States agricultural exports in advance of shipment to Cuba threatens to jeopardize accords and terminate agricultural trade with Cuba;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges Congress to allow for the travel of United States citizens to and from Cuba and to allow direct banking transfers between the United States and Cuba for the purchase of American-made products by Cuba; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, the majority and minority leaders of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2005,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State