

1 State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: H3/18/99

2 82nd General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 1999

HR 1033

4
5 By: Representatives Davis, Allison, Ammons, Angel, Bookout, Broadway, Dees, Elliott, Ferguson,
6 Gipson, Glover, Gullett, Jacobs, Lendall, Milligan, Milum, Minton, Oglesby, Parks, Shoffner,
7 Simmons, R. Smith, M. Steele, Trammell, Weaver, Wood

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10 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

11 "URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE
12 UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO
13 REMOVE OFFICIAL PROHIBITIONS AND DETERRENTS TO THE
14 SALE OF AMERICAN FARM PRODUCTS TO CUBA. "

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16 **Subtitle**

17 "URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
18 STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
19 TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO REMOVE
20 OFFICIAL PROHIBITIONS AND DETERRENTS TO
21 THE SALE OF AMERICAN FARM PRODUCTS TO
22 CUBA. "

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24
25 *WHEREAS, agricultural exports from the United States have consistently*
26 *contributed an annual \$18 billion surplus to the U. S. balance of trade; and*
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28 *WHEREAS, U. S. rice has supported a positive U. S. trade balance by*
29 *consistently supplying over 40% of total U. S. rice production to export*
30 *markets; and*

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32 *WHEREAS, Arkansas produces 40% of total U. S. rice production; and*
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34 *WHEREAS, the economic condition of agriculture in Arkansas is*
35 *deteriorating rapidly and is resulting in an important loss of farm income;*
36 *and*

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2 *WHEREAS, U. S. rice is significantly restricted by embargoes on trade*
3 *that deny U. S. rice farmers the opportunity to increase U. S. rice exports by*
4 *30% of current volume; and*

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6 *WHEREAS, 1998 ending stocks of U. S. long grain rice increased by 40%;*
7 *and*

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9 *WHEREAS, U. S. rice stocks are foreseen to increase even further in*
10 *1999, given that current conditions for U. S. agriculture remain unchanged;*
11 *and*

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13 *WHEREAS, U. S. farmers believe their work is to produce food for the*
14 *world and that food is not a weapon; and*

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16 *WHEREAS, the sale of Arkansas rice to the Republic of Cuba will pose no*
17 *threat to the security of the United States; and*

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19 *WHEREAS, there are 300,000 metric tons of Arkansas rice currently in*
20 *storage and the republic of Cuba offers a potential export market of 300,000*
21 *metric tons of Arkansas rice annually; and*

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23 *WHEREAS, the United States sells wheat to the Soviet Union, but the sale*
24 *of rice to Cuba is embargoed, even though Cuba poses a lesser threat to the*
25 *security of the United States than does the Soviet Union;*

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27 NOW THEREFORE,

28 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SECOND GENERAL
29 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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31 The House of Representatives hereby sincerely urges the President of the
32 United States and the U. S. Congress to take appropriate action to remove all
33 official prohibitions and deterrents to the sale of United States grain to
34 Cuba.

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption of this Resolution, copies hereof

1 shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the presiding
2 officer of the U. S. Senate and the U. S. House of Representatives, and to
3 each member of the Arkansas Congressional Delegation.

4 /s/ Davis, et al