

HOUSE RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, agricultural exports from the United States have consistently declined since 1980 and the United States in May 1986 imported more agricultural products than it exported for the first time since 1959, causing a \$152 million agricultural trade deficit; and

WHEREAS, the loss of exports and increase in imports are producing an estimated 1986 trade deficit of \$170 billion; and

WHEREAS, the economic condition of agriculture in Arkansas is deteriorating rapidly and has resulted in a loss of many farms and high unemployment in the State; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the sale of Arkansas rice to the Republic of Cuba will pose no great threat to the security of the United States,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this Resolution, copies hereof shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the presiding officer of the U. S. Senate and the U. S. House of Representatives, and to each member of the Arkansas Congressional Delegation.