From: "Rep. Trey Hollingsworth" <trey@mail.house.gov> To: Carter.Moelk@mail.house.gov Subject: Poll: Lifting the Embargo on Cuba Date: Wed, 21 Jul 2021 14:15:57 -0400 Dear Hoosiers, For almost 60 years, the United States has maintained a comprehensive economic embargo on Cuba. After Fidel Castro's power grab against U.S.-backed Fulgencio Batista in 1959 and his direct shift to communism in the 60's, President John F. Kennedy placed sanctions on Cuba, isolating the island nation in an attempt to pressure economic and political change. In the years since the embargo was enacted, various American leaders have debated the efficacy of the Cuba sanctions. In 2008, then-presidential nominee Barack Obama promised to pursue diplomacy with the nation, and he eased restrictions once taking office. President Donald Trump reinforced the embargo during his term in office, reapplying economic and political pressure on the communist nation, and President Joe Biden has thus far maintained the reenacted sanctions into his first term. Since the nation's move to communism and the U.S. embargo was put in place, Cuba has struggled economically. Currently, the nation is led by communist loyalist Migel Diaz-Canel, and his leadership as well as the government structure is being called into question after years of poor economic output have hurt Cuban families. Cubans are demonstrating in the streets, protesting the current communist regime and demanding a change in political structure. In response, the Cuban authorities are attacking protesters and injuring activists. Certain American leaders, such as Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, blame much of Cuba's current crises on the U.S. embargo. Commenting to the media, "...she underscored that the US embargo on Cuba, which has been the centerpiece of Washington's policy toward the island nation for six decades, is also contributing to the suffering of Cubans." While another leader, Senator Marco Rubio, the son of Cuban immigrants, says "It's the [cuban] regime, not the US that prevents remittances directly to Cubans." Rubio explains, "The Cuban regime has already killed protestors...And they will not hesitate to murder thousands if it means staying in power." QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Do you believe the United States should lift the embargo on Cuba? [] Yes, I think we should lift the embargo on Cuba in an effort to help solveCuba's economic and political crises[_] No, I don't think we should lift the embargo until Cuba's communist regime changes course[] I don't know[] Other Dear Hoosiers, For almost 60 years, the United States has maintained a comprehensive economic embargo on Cuba. After Fidel Castro's power grab against U.S.-backed Fulgencio Batista in 1959 and his direct shift to communism in the 60's, President John F. Kennedy placed sanctions on Cuba, isolating the island nation in an attempt to pressure economic and political change. In the years since the embargo was enacted, various American leaders have debated the efficacy of the Cuba sanctions. In 2008, then-presidential nominee Barack Obama promised to pursue diplomacy with the nation, and he eased restrictions once taking office. President Donald Trump reinforced the embargo during his term in office, reapplying economic and political pressure on the communist nation, and President Joe Biden has thus far maintained the reenacted sanctions into his first term. Since the nation's move to communism and the U.S. embargo was put in place, Cuba has struggled economically. Currently, the nation is led by communist loyalist Migel Diaz-Canel, and his leadership as well as the government structure is being called into question after years of poor economic output have hurt Cuban families. Cubans are demonstrating in the streets, protesting the current communist regime and demanding a change in political

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