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MEDIA ADVISORY

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**DHCF Supports President's Move to
Restore Diplomatic Ties with Cuba**

ORLANDO – The Democratic Hispanic Caucus of Florida (DHCF) supports President Barack Obama's announcement to chart a new course and restore diplomatic ties with Cuba.

The DHCF agrees that U.S. isolation of Cuba for more than 50 years has not produced the intended objective in creating a stable and democratic government within that country. The ties between the U.S. and Cuba run deep as seen in the contributions and relationships made by the millions of Cubans and U.S. citizens of Cuban decent that reside in the States --- many of whose families on the island continue to hope for a better tomorrow. Isolation has failed its purpose as it has not furthered human rights and democracy in Cuba.

President Obama's decision to normalize relations and end the unnecessary estrangement between the U.S. and the Communist island will begin with the opening of an U.S. embassy in Havana and the easing of trade and travel restrictions.

The Democratic Hispanic Caucus of Florida welcomes one of the most significant changes in U.S. policy that impacts the lives of the Cuban community, and embraces the end to an approach that has failed to advance the interests of the American and Cuban people.

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