August 3, 2021

TALKING POINTS & MESSAGING

The Republican Party Stands With Cubans

- The Republican Party stands in solidarity with the Cuban people, who are risking everything to march for freedom from a communist dictatorship that has oppressed them for more than six decades.
- Biden's lack of leadership is a disgrace and undermines the cause of freedom in Cuba and around the world.
- It took Biden days to condemn communism as a failed ideology, with his administration refusing to forcefully stand up for the Cuban people.
- Biden and his administration must stop perpetuating the lie being told by Cuba's dictator. These protests are not about the <u>pandemic</u> or the <u>U.S. embargo</u> they are about freedom from decades of oppression, communism, and tyrannical rule.
- In response, the dictatorship shut down <u>internet access</u> and had dissidents <u>arrested</u>, <u>kidnapped</u>, <u>and physically assaulted</u>.
- Despite <u>urgings</u> from Governor DeSantis, Biden has <u>failed to provide stable</u> internet access to Cubans to document the abuses taking place.
- Joe Biden and Democrats are weak on Cuba. In fact, members of the Democrat Party have been apologists for Cuba's communist dictators for decades.
 - In 2016, Obama attended a baseball game with dictator Raul Castro, as his administration took a weak stance against the regime, which only benefited the country's dictatorship instead of its people.
 - President Barack Obama also praised Cuba's communist dictators and said that they "should be congratulated" for making "great progress" and "huge improvement" in education and health care.
 - Senator Bernie Sanders praised Fidel Castro for "totally transform[ing] the society" in the 1980s. In 2020, he again praised Castro's "literacy program."
 - Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) blamed the U.S. not communism's failures – for the protests in Cuba.
 - Ocasio-Cortez: "What's extraordinarily important for us to communicate as well is the actions, U.S. contributions to the suffering of Cubans on the island as well."
 - Senator Raphael Warnock did not object when his church hosted Fidel Castro in 1995, and received thousands in donations for his 2020

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campaign from the senior pastor who called Castro "one of the great leaders of the world."

- Many Democrats "don't want to go hard" on the Cuban regime because they agree with their socialist agenda, and they welcome socialists in their own party.
- The Democratic Socialists of America <u>declared</u> its solidarity with the "Revolution" – the term used by the communist regime.
- Democrat Members of Congress Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Rashida Tlaib, Jamaal Bowman, and Cori Bush are all DSA members.
- While Biden's <u>open borders policies</u> are encouraging <u>hundreds of thousands</u> of illegal immigrants from <u>over 160 countries</u> to pour across the border, Biden's DHS secretary warned Cubans actually facing repression from their communist government that they will "<u>not be permitted to enter the United States</u>."
- The Republican Party will continue to stand with the people of Cuba and all across Latin America who are fighting for freedom and against communism. We cannot allow Cuba's failed and dangerous policies to be exported here.
- RNC Research: Democrats Fail To Stand For Freedom