

Senate Resolution 628

By: Senator Ragan of the 11th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to lift sanctions and establish permanent normal
2 trade relations with Cuba; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, there has been significant change in relations between Cuba and the United
4 States since 1962 when prohibitive trade sanctions were imposed; and

5 WHEREAS, this export ban was imposed during a period of much fear and threat of nuclear
6 attack due to the Cold War between the former Soviet Union, other communist regimes, and
7 the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, that threat no longer exists and it is no longer United States policy to prohibit
9 trade with a communist country, as we already have heavy trade with China and are
10 establishing trade with countries like Vietnam; and

11 WHEREAS, with complete normalization of trade relations, Cuba could become a \$1 billion
12 market for United States agricultural producers within five years, making it our third largest
13 market in the Americas after Mexico and Canada; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia specifically has much to gain with normalized trade with Cuba due to
15 its close geographical location and Georgia's status as a leading producer of poultry; and

16 WHEREAS, Cuba represents a \$22 million poultry market with nearly a quarter of this being
17 supplied by Canada and France, that could easily grow upward to \$100 million; and

18 WHEREAS, current bilateral trade between Canada and Cuba exceeds \$500 million, some
19 of which is Georgia poultry and other products being diverted to Cuba through Canada; and

20 WHEREAS, the United States has much to gain by trading with Cuba, not only in
21 agriculture, but also in many other sectors of the economy and culture; and

1 WHEREAS, the Cuban people also have much to gain and are more likely to move toward
2 liberty as they see our way of life and of the success of our free market system.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
4 express their support for normalized trade relations with Cuba and urge Congress to lift
5 sanctions and establish permanent normal trade with Cuba.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
7 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to each member of the Georgia congressional
8 delegation.