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*Here is a sample which was used for sharing with clergy colleagues in Oregon (Oregon's Senators were sponsoring the bill, so it was a matter of thanking them rather than urging them – either way, they need to know it's important to us.):*

Dear Clergy Colleagues,

Cuba continues to suffer under the harsh blockade imposed by the US government. Cuban people are partners in our shared struggle for the better world that our faith assures us is possible.

On February 4th, Senate Finance Committee Chair Ron Wyden (D-OR) introduced the U.S.-Cuba Trade Act of 2021 to repeal outdated sanctions on Cuba and establish normal trade relations with the island nation. Senators Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Richard Durbin (D-IL), and Jeff Merkley (D-OR) co-sponsored the bill as well. You can read the full text of it [here](#).

If passed, the bill would repeal the major statutes that codify sanctions against Cuba, including Section 620 (a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; the Helms-Burton Act of 1996 and the Cuban Democracy Act. It seeks to "promote democratic change and economic reform by normalizing trade relations with Cuba".

I am asking you to sign on to this letter to Senators Wyden and Merkley thanking them for taking the lead on this trade act in hopes of more justice for Cuba and enhanced exchange between our citizens. Please forward and invite other clergy in Oregon to add their voices as well.

Thank you,  
Rev. Paula Sohl

***Be a Real Revolutionary – Practice Your Faith***

We rejoice that our network is filled with faith – faith in the Power of Love that sustains us in the struggle for a better world.

Dear Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley,

Thank you so much for introducing the U.S.- Cuba Trade Act of 2021. As faith leaders we support policies that promote justice and equity. We have much to learn from the resilience of the Cuban people and how they have "made a way out of no way" in spite of the cruel limitations of the US imposed blockade. We want you to know we support your efforts, not simply for the trade implications, but as a moral imperative to allow Cuba to live more freely and continue to evolve her people's democracy with increased access to basic necessities of food and medication.

Thank you for your work on this important issue,  
Rev. Paula Sohl

For other state's senators who have not sponsored this bill yet:

Dear Senator .....

I am writing to urge you to support the U.S.- Cuba Trade Act of 2021. As faith leaders we support policies that promote justice and equity. We have much to learn from the resilience of the Cuban people and how they have "made a way out of no way" in spite of the cruel limitations of the US imposed blockade. Your support is needed not simply for the trade implications, but as a moral imperative to allow Cuba to live more freely and continue to evolve her people's democracy with increased access to basic necessities of food and medication.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.