

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

5/9/2019 – Curtis Hall, Sacramento

RESOLUTION 2019-12

Opposing Military Intervention in, & Economic Sanctions on, Venezuela

WHEREAS, U.S. policy in Central and South America has too often involved violently overthrowing the governments of sovereign nations, supporting brutal dictatorships, and imposing punishing economic sanctions that hurt ordinary people far more than their governments' leaders; – Cuba, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Chile are stark reminders of how such interventions have caused massive loss of life, suffering, and denial of civil and human rights; and

WHEREAS, The Trump administration along with other Republican and some Democratic leaders have called for the ouster of elected Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, have recognized a self-declared, unelected pretender, have met with Venezuelan military officers plotting to overthrow their own government, and have threatened to use U.S. troops in the region to invade the country, actions that are even more troubling coming from a president who has already expressed support for taking oil as a form of booty of armed conflict, who is anxious to win a foreign policy victory, and desperate to distract from criminal investigations; and

WHEREAS, The actual effect of the Trump administration's sanctions, placed in violation of the U.N. and OAS charters, have been the opposite of their proclaimed purpose—they have increased the suffering of the Venezuelan people by cutting off the availability of basic necessities and critical medications while wreaking havoc on Venezuela's currency and ability to import basic needs, greatly polarizing the Venezuelan people, exacerbating civil conflict, and driving the Maduro government into a repressive posture;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County opposes any attempts by the Trump Administration to overthrow the government of Venezuela directly or by arming other entities, internal or external, that are attempting to change their government undemocratically and in violation of international law, nor do we wish to inflict upon the Venezuelan people more suffering and loss of life that open or covert war and economic sanctions surely bring.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we call on our Democratic leaders to support peaceful, diplomatic efforts to uphold democracy, preserve national sovereignty, and promote negotiations between the Venezuelan government and opposition to end the suffering of the Venezuelan people.

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Sponsors: David Mandel & Andrew S. Becker