

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 16, 2017

His Excellency Carlos Manuel Sada Solana  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
United Mexican States  
1911 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington DC 20006

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

As you know, on January 12, 2017, President Obama terminated the special parole program for Cuban refugees. However, when the President made this change, many Cubans were already en-route to the United States. Many of these Cuban nationals are now stranded in Mexico, uncertain of their future.

We are troubled by recent reports about the treatment of Cuban refugees in Mexico. According to reporting by the *Quadratin* news agency, and published in *The Miami Herald*, Cuban nationals detained at the Siglo XXI Immigrant detention center have been subject to abuse, harassment, beatings, and extortion by Mexican authorities. Reports also indicate that a formal complaint against officials of the state of Chiapas' Public Security Department and the National Migration Institute has been filed, but that those complaints often remain unresolved for months. In fact, these reports of abuse are consistent with troubling findings in the 2015 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices in Mexico, published by the U.S. Department of State on April 13, 2016, that migrants in Mexico often are not properly screened to assess refugee status, and that civil society groups reported that migrants have been subject to abuse in detention facilities.

We are profoundly concerned about these reports of abuse and other inappropriate conduct. Accordingly, within all applicable international laws, we respectfully ask that your government thoroughly review these accusations and ensure that these refugees are afforded access to basic necessities such as food, water, and basic medical care, and that they are provided the opportunity to fully present any asylum claims.

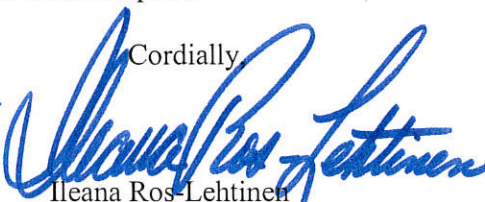
Their desperation to escape the daily strife and struggle under the Cuban dictatorship's escalating oppression caused many of them to sell their belongings and make the dangerous journey to escape the deteriorating conditions in Cuba. They fear repatriation due to the grave reprisals Cubans face when they are forcibly returned to the often vengeful Castro dictatorship. We ask that your government make sure that these Cubans are treated with respect and dignity.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.



Carlos Curbelo

Cordially,



Heana Ros-Lehtinen



Mario Diaz-Balart