

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1201

To posthumously revoke the naturalization of Eriberto Mederos.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2003

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. ENGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To posthumously revoke the naturalization of Eriberto Mederos.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Cuban Victims of Tor-  
5 ture Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

1           (1) Eriberto Mederos, a native of Cuba, was  
2 naturalized as a citizen of the United States in  
3 1993.

4           (2) On August 1, 2002, the jury returned a  
5 guilty verdict in a proceeding instituted for the pur-  
6 pose of revoking the order admitting Eriberto  
7 Mederos to citizenship on the ground that such  
8 order was procured by concealment of material facts  
9 and willful misrepresentations.

10           (3) For almost two weeks preceding the verdict,  
11 the jury heard gruesome testimony from a series of  
12 witnesses revealing that, in the forensic wings of the  
13 Mazorra Psychiatric Hospital outside of Havana,  
14 Eriberto Mederos directed tortures against political  
15 prisoners, such as dragging, administration of elec-  
16 tric shocks, and forced drug injections. He some-  
17 times let his victims know that the cause of their  
18 suffering was “counter-revolutionary” opposition to  
19 the Communist dictatorship in Cuba.

20           (4) These acts of torture were not revealed on  
21 Eriberto Mederos’s application for naturalization.

22           (5) On August 23, 2002, Eriberto Mederos died  
23 before a sentence was imposed.

24           (6) The jury verdict was abated solely because  
25 of his death.

1           (7) Had Eriberto Mederos not died before sen-  
2           tencing, the guilty verdict of the jury would have led  
3           to the revocation of his naturalization.

4           (8) The significance of the jury verdict is in no  
5           way depreciated by the fortuitous death of Eriberto  
6           Mederos. It stands as an established record that  
7           Eriberto Mederos illegally procured United States  
8           citizenship by concealing his role in torturing polit-  
9           ical prisoners on behalf of the Communist govern-  
10          ment of Cuba.

11          (9) The suffering and indignity Eriberto  
12          Mederos inflicted on his victims should be recognized  
13          and addressed.

14          (10) Eriberto Mederos should never have been  
15          granted United States citizenship.

16 **SEC. 3. REVOCATION OF NATURALIZATION.**

17          The Attorney General shall take such actions as may  
18          be necessary to revoke and set aside the order admitting  
19          Eriberto Mederos to citizenship, and to cancel the certifi-  
20          cate of naturalization that was issued pursuant to such  
21          order, on the ground that such order and certificate were  
22          procured by concealment of material facts and willful mis-  
23          representations. Such revocation and setting aside of the  
24          order, and such canceling of the certificate of naturaliza-

- 1 tion, shall be effective as of the original date of the order
- 2 and certificate, respectively.

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