



Los Angeles County
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Opposing Military Intervention in and Economic Sanctions on Venezuela

WHEREAS U.S. foreign policy in Central and South America has too often involved violently overthrowing sovereign nations, supporting brutal dictatorships and using punishing economic sanctions that hurt ordinary people far more than their government's leaders; Cuba, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Chile are stark reminders of how such interventions have failed and caused massive losses of life; and

WHEREAS the Trump Administration along with other Republican leaders have called for the ouster of Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro, the Administration has met with Venezuelan military members planning to overthrow their own government and the Administration has signaled sending U.S. troops to the region, such actions are made 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 is desperate to distract from criminal investigations; and

WHEREAS while the Maduro regime has been accused of crimes against humanity, government corruption and drug trafficking, the Trump Administration's sanctions on the Venezuelan economy have only increased the suffering of the Venezuelan people by cutting off the availability of basic necessities and critical medications, all while the alleged targets of the sanctions, the Venezuelan oil industry, continue to do business with U S energy companies along with Rosneft, the Russian state run oil company, which after the sanctions, has only increased its investments in Venezuelan oil; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party opposes any attempts by the Trump Administration to overthrow the government of Venezuela and opposes arming other entities attempting to overthrow the government, while recognizing the failures and abuses of the Maduro regime, we do not wish to inflict upon the Venezuelan people more suffering and loss of life that open or covert war and economic sanctions surely bring; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED we call on our Democratic leaders to seek peaceful diplomatic efforts to restore democracy, preserve national sovereignty, and end the suffering of the Venezuelan people caused by dictatorship and punishing economic sanctions.

Submitted by Melissa Michelson, County Committee Member (Alternate), AD 49, and by Feel the Bern Democratic Club, Los Angeles

Authored by Ian Burke Jameson, AD 41, and Brian Carolus, AD 53