

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5737

To posthumously revoke the naturalization of Eriberto Mederos.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 14, 2002

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

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:

8 (1) Eriberto Mederos, a native of Cuba, was
9 naturalized as a citizen of the United States in
10 1993.

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

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

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

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

21 (6) The jury verdict was abated solely because
22 of his death.

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

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

8 (9) The suffering and indignity Eriberto
9 Mederos inflicted on his victims should be recognized
10 and addressed.

11 (10) Eriberto Mederos should never have been
12 granted United States citizenship.

13 **SEC. 3. REVOCATION OF NATURALIZATION.**

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

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