

**House Resolution**

**No. 11**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bryan**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner Horvath, Bonta, Calderon, Juan Carrillo, Wendy Carrillo, Cervantes, Chen, Connolly, Megan Dahle, Davies, Dixon, Essayli, Flora, Mike Fong, Vince Fong, Friedman, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Grayson, Haney, Hart, Holden, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Jones-Sawyer, Kalra, Lackey, Lee, Low, Lowenthal, Maienschein, Mathis, McCarty, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Stephanie Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Jim Patterson, Joe Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Rendon, Reyes, Luz Rivas, Robert Rivas, Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Santiago, Schiavo, Soria, Ta, Ting, Valencia, Villapudua, Waldron, Wallis, Ward, Weber, Wicks, Wilson, Wood, and Zbur)*

February 1, 2023

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House Resolution No. 11—Relative to the release of Eyvin Hernandez.

- 1 WHEREAS, Eyvin Hernandez was captured by armed and
- 2 masked men in the vicinity of the Colombia-Venezuela border on
- 3 March 31, 2022, after he was not able to pay a \$100 bribe the
- 4 armed men requested, and after his kidnappers learned of his United
- 5 States citizenship and accused him of being a spy; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez' kidnappers covered his head with
- 7 a black hood, put him in the back of a pickup truck, transported
- 8 him across multiple locations, and eventually transferred him over
- 9 to the Venezuelan government; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez is currently being held in a  
2 maximum security prison, the General Directorate of Military  
3 Counterintelligence (DGCIM) in Caracas, Venezuela, where other  
4 United States nationals and Venezuelan political prisoners are  
5 imprisoned; and

6 WHEREAS, The Venezuelan government has charged Mr.  
7 Hernandez with criminal association and conspiracy, which could  
8 result in up to 16 years in prison; and

9 WHEREAS, The United Nations' Office of the High  
10 Commissioner for Human Rights states that the judiciary system  
11 in Venezuela lacks independence, that justice and safeguarding of  
12 individual rights are jeopardized, and that serious human rights  
13 violations against opponents of the government have gone  
14 unchecked; and

15 WHEREAS, The United States Department of State, on October  
16 21, 2022, designated Mr. Hernandez as wrongfully detained, and  
17 the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs has been  
18 assigned Mr. Hernandez's case; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez has worked for the Los Angeles  
20 County Public Defender's office since 2006, representing the most  
21 vulnerable people in the county who are homeless, and living with  
22 mental health and substance abuse issues; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez is an active member of the Los  
24 Angeles County Public Defender's Union – Local 148, where he  
25 previously served on the board of directors; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez has volunteered his time to advocate  
27 for children in the juvenile justice system, was a mentor for the  
28 UCLA Law Fellows Program to encourage students from diverse  
29 backgrounds to apply to and attend law school, and was a mentor  
30 for the Latina Lawyer Bar Association; and

31 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez attended El Camino College, the  
32 University of California, Los Angeles, where he majored in physics  
33 and mathematics, and the UCLA School of Law, where he was  
34 associate editor for the Chicax-Latinx Law Review; and

35 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez's family immigrated to the United  
36 States when he was a toddler, fleeing the civil war in El Salvador  
37 and seeking a better life; and

38 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez is a man of diverse interests and  
39 curiosity, which has led him to salsa dancing, boxing, chess, and  
40 writing; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez is a man of impeccable character,  
2 loved and admired by many who know him for his deep devotion  
3 to justice, respect for humanity, willingness to help others, patience,  
4 kindness, and intellect; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez has always made himself available  
6 to help others, whether they be family, friends, friends of friends,  
7 and absolute strangers, and the imprints that Mr. Hernandez has  
8 made on the Los Angeles community and the state are many and  
9 deeply impactful; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez is a dearly loved son, brother, uncle,  
11 friend, colleague, and valued member of the State of California;  
12 now, therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the  
14 Assembly stands in solidarity with Eyvin Hernandez, his friends  
15 and family, the Los Angeles community, and the people of the  
16 state in advocating for his immediate release; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That the Assembly calls on President Joseph Biden,  
18 Vice President Kamala Harris, National Security Advisor Jacob  
19 Sullivan, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, and Special Envoy  
20 for Hostage Affairs Roger Carstens, to act with urgency and  
21 negotiate for Mr. Hernandez’s release, and protect his well-being;  
22 and be it further

23 *Resolved*, That the Assembly calls on the entire California  
24 congressional delegation to work toward his release and to speak  
25 up for Mr. Hernandez, as appropriate; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
27 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.  
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30 REVISIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

31 Heading—Line 2.

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