118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

Commending María Corina Machado as Venezuela's legitimate presidential opposition candidate.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

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RESOLUTION

Commending María Corina Machado as Venezuela's legitimate presidential opposition candidate.

Whereas, on October 26, 2023, María Corina Machado was declared the winner of the primary election that was held by the National Primary Commission of Venezuela;

Whereas the primary election drew more than 2,400,000 voters in Venezuela and abroad;

Whereas the intent of the National Primary Commission was to choose a candidate to oppose the illegitimate Nicolás Maduro regime in Venezuela's 2024 presidential election;

Whereas the National Primary Commission successfully organized and carried out the primary election despite obstacles, threats, and attacks by the illegitimate Maduro regime;

Whereas María Corina Machado deserves the recognition of
the United States and all democratic states as Ven-
ezuela's duly chosen presidential opposition candidate;

Whereas the Biden administration should rally the inter-
national community to recognize María Corina Machado
as the legitimate leader of the Venezuelan opposition in
furtherance of the administration's stated goal of sup-
porting free and fair elections in Venezuela, and Ven-
ezuela's return to democratic governance;

Whereas the United States Government should not recognize
the results of the general elections in Venezuela unless
María Corina Machado is officially allowed to run as the
legitimate presidential candidate of the opposition in Ven-
ezuela's 2024 presidential election without repression, the
election is free, fair, transparent, and internationally su-
pervised, and all political prisoners are released uncondi-
tionally;

Whereas the United States and all democratic states must
stand with the people of Venezuela in their quest to re-
store civil, political, and human rights;

Whereas, because the illegitimate Maduro regime has forced
millions of Venezuelans into exile and potential disenfran-
chisement, the United States and the international com-
munity must support the Venezuelan diaspora's voice and
its right to be recognized in Venezuela's 2024 presi-
dential election; and

Whereas, on October 30, 2023, the illegitimate supreme court
of Nicolás Maduro declared the suspension of "all ef-
fects" of the Venezuelan primary election, thereby negat-
ing the deal between the Maduro regime and the opposi-

tion that was facilitated by the United States Government: Now, therefore, be it

1   *Resolved,* That the Senate—

2   (1) commends María Corina Machado as Ven-

3   ezuela's official presidential opposition candidate;

4   (2) condemns efforts by the illegitimate Maduro

5   regime to prevent María Corina Machado from par-

6   ticipating in Venezuela's 2024 presidential election;

7   (3) rejects the illegitimate Maduro regime's ef-

8   forts to carry out fraudulent presidential elections,

9   including barring the participation of the opposition

10   candidate chosen by the Venezuelan voters;

11   (4) demands that the illegitimate Maduro re-

12   gime permit reputable election observers, such as the

13   Organization of American States, the European

14   Union, the International Republican Institute, the

15   National Democratic Institute, and other credible or-

16   ganizations;

17   (5) calls for the immediate, unconditional re-

18   lease of all political prisoners in Venezuela;

19   (6) denounces efforts by the illegitimate

20   Maduro regime to persecute its political opponents,

21   such as members of the National Primary Commis-

22   sion;

23   (7) condemns efforts by the illegitimate su-

24   preme court of Venezuela to invalidate the primary

4

1 election held by the National Primary Commission;

2 and

3   (8) urges the President to strengthen and reim-

4 pose sanctions because the negotiated conditions

5 have not been met.