
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8031

State of Washington 56th Legislature 2000 2nd Special Session

By Senator Sheahan

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND THE HONORABLE JANET RENO,
5 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE COMMISSIONER OF
6 IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION:

7 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
8 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
9 represent and petition as follows:

10 WHEREAS, Elian Gonzalez has captured the hearts of Americans across
11 the nation; and

12 WHEREAS, Elian has suffered physically and emotionally on his
13 journey from Cuba to the United States, including experiencing serious
14 threats to his own safety and witnessing the death of his mother; and

15 WHEREAS, The entire family has suffered a great deal over the last
16 several months from separation and custody disputes; and

17 WHEREAS, The federal government through the department of justice
18 has become intimately involved in the lives of Elian and his family;
19 and

1 WHEREAS, Elian and his family must remain in the United States as
2 they continue to wait for a custody decision by the United States court
3 of appeals;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Elian
5 Gonzalez and his immediate family, including his father, stepmother,
6 and stepbrother be granted refugee status. In addition, we
7 respectfully request that members of the Gonzalez family currently
8 remaining in Cuba be granted immigrant visas.

9 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
10 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
11 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
12 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
13 State of Washington, Janet Reno, Attorney General of the United States,
14 and the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization.

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