

Story summary: The House and Senate have each passed legislation that would lift unilateral food and medicine sanctions on Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea and Sudan. Many farmers and lawmakers say lifting sanctions, especially on Cuba, would help American agriculture by opening new markets.

TRT: 1:31

Suggested lead: Congress is working on legislation that would exclude food and medicine from existing sanctions on five countries, including Cuba. Bob Ellison reports.

Suggested supers: Rep. George Nethercutt
(R-Wash.)
@ :08

Audrae Erickson
American Farm Bureau
@ :22

Sen. Byron Dorgan
(D.-N.D.)
@ 1:01

Bob Ellison reporting
@ 1:22

Congress Votes To Drop Sanctions
Bob Ellison Reporting
July 27, 2000

<p>Ellison Corn pouring Corn pouring cu Corn piling</p>	<p>VO/ MANY LAWMAKERS BELIEVE LIFTING FOOD AND MEDICINE SANCTIONS ON CUBA, IRAN, SUDAN, LIBYA AND NORTH KOREA WOULD BE LUCRATIVE FOR AMERICAN AGRICULTURE.</p>
<p>Nethercutt</p>	<p>SOT/ THIS IS A SEVEN BILLION DOLLAR MARKET THAT'S AVAILABLE TO OUR FARMERS IF WE LIFT THIS SANCTIONS POLICY AND CHANGE IT.</p>
<p>Ellison Cuban cars Two men walking</p>	<p>VO/ LIFTING SANCTIONS ON CUBA IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO MANY FARMERS BECAUSE IT IS SO CLOSE TO THE UNITED STATES.</p>
<p>Erickson</p>	<p>SOT/ CUBA BUYS ABOUT ONE BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TODAY AND IT'S REALLY ACROSS THE BOARD IN TERMS OF GRAINS, OILSEEDS BUT ALSO MEATS AND FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.</p>
<p>Ellison Castro at a table Castro talking to congress members Castro talking to congress members cu</p>	<p>VO/ THE UNITED STATES USES SANCTIONS AS LEVERAGE AGAINST ANTAGONISTS. BUT MANY LAWMAKERS BELIEVE LIFTING SANCTIONS ON FOOD AND MEDICINE IS THE BEST WAY TO REFORM REPRESSIVE, TOTALITARIAN DICTATORSHIPS.</p>
<p>Nethercutt Grain pouring from truck Grain pouring from truck cu</p>	<p>SOT/ WE HASTEN THE DEMISE OF FIDEL CASTRO FOR EXAMPLE AND WE CHANGE THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH KOREA AND WE CHANGE THE OPPOSITION IN THESE OTHER COUNTRIES. THE POTENTIAL IS HIGHER IF WE CHANGE THIS</p>

	POLICY ON FOOD AND MEDICINE SANCTIONS.
Ellison Cubans at a table Plate of food	VO/ ANOTHER ANTI-SANCTIONS ARGUMENT IS THAT FOOD AND MEDICINE SHOULD NOT BE POLITICIZED.
Dorgan Oxen pulling plow Mountain of grain	SOT/ THIS ISN'T ABOUT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT. I DON'T SUPPORT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT. IT'S ABOUT THE ABSURDITY OF A PUBLIC POLICY THAT PUNISHES POOR PEOPLE OVERSEAS, NUMBER ONE, AND PUNISHES OUR FARMERS HERE AT HOME.
	THERE'S NOTHING WRONG AT ALL WITH DECIDING TO IMPOSE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON COUNTRIES WHOSE BEHAVIOR OUGHT TO BE PUNISHED, BUT THOSE SANCTIONS SHOULD NOT INCLUDE FOOD AND MEDICINE.
Ellison sot Committee room pan Capitol zoom-in	VO/ THE HOUSE AND SENATE HAVE PASSED TWO DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF ANTI-SANCTIONS LEGISLATION. THEY'LL MEET IN CONFERENCE TO REACH A COMPROMISE. IN WASHINGTON, I'M BOB ELLISON REPORTING.

