

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE COLLECTION OF ACCURATE INFORMATION
ON THE STATUS OF LGBT PEOPLE IN CUBA**

WHEREAS: the National Lawyers Guild has supported the Cuban Revolution since its triumph on January 1, 1959;

WHEREAS: the National Lawyers Guild recognizes the contributions of the Argentine revolutionary Che Guevara and notes that October 8th, 2007 marks the fortieth anniversary of his murder by U.S. trained troops in Bolivia;

WHEREAS: the National Lawyers Guild reaffirms its demands that the United States immediately end the economic blockade of Cuba and the travel ban that prevents U.S. citizens from being able to travel to that island nation;

WHEREAS: the National Lawyers Guild reaffirms its recognition of the benefits that socialism has brought to all the people of Cuba;

WHEREAS: the National Lawyers Guild has supported the Cuban government despite the fact that in the past it has sanctioned official discrimination against its LGBT citizens;

WHEREAS: the government of Cuba eliminated sodomy laws in 1979 (24 years before *Lawrence v Texas*), prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and has recently proposed legal protections for same sex relationships;

WHEREAS: the United States Government and corporate-controlled media suppress accurate information or actively spread misinformation about Cuba;

WHEREAS: Right-wing political groups and parties have also been actively spreading misinformation about Cuba and actors in the Cuban Revolution;

WHEREAS: In light of this level of misinformation there is a need for updated and accurate information on the current legal/social/political status of LGBT people in Cuban society;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the National Lawyers Guild supports efforts to gather accurate information and to report back on the present status of LGBT people in Cuba;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the National Lawyers Guild should work with like-minded groups and individuals to gather accurate information on LGBT status in Cuba and to disseminate this information to our membership.

IMPLEMENTATION CLAUSE: This resolution will be implemented by the NEC, Queer Committee, Cuba Subcommittee of the International Committee and concerned individual members.

Submitted by: Peter Erlinder; Dan Mayfield; Paul Gattone, pgattone@aol.com; Zak Wolfe; Jim Lafferty, jlafferty@nlg-la.org.