

# NEWS

# from Paul Tsongas

for immediate release 8/25/82  
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## U.S. SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS

### TSONGAS AND 21 COLLEAGUES URGE CASTRO TO RELEASE MASSACHUSETTS COMPUTER EXPERT

Senator Paul E. Tsongas of Massachusetts, joined by twenty one Senate colleagues has written to Cuban President Fidel Castro about the plight of Miguel M. Suarez of Arlington, Massachusetts. Mr. Suarez, a highly respected computer design expert, who left Boston on April 21, 1982 to visit his parents in Cuba for a one week stay, has been detained in a Cuban detention center since May.

The letter points out that Mr. Suarez is a United States citizen. Although he has been visited by his father in Villa Marista detention center, his wife, Mrs. Celia von Mering Suarez of Arlington, Massachusetts has had little news of her husband since he was imprisoned and charged with an unspecified problem regarding his visa. " Mr. Suarez is a respected member of the American technological business community. His incarceration has caused great concern among his colleagues and friends " the Senators wrote to the Cuban President

Senator Tsongas and his staff have made efforts in conjunction with the State Department and through the Cuban Interests Section in the Czechoslovak Embassy in Washington to determine Mr. Suarez' physical condition and the specific charges against him. " Mr. Suarez has a heart condition and without proper medical attention, there is genuine concern that his physical condition will deteriorate " Senator Tsongas said.

The Senators' letter to President Castro is a request for a personal response from the Cuban leader. " We respectfully urge you to direct your personal attention to this serious matter. We would appreciate your sharing with us any information you have about Mr. Suarez' physical condition and any other relevant details pertaining to his case. Our desire is to effect the safe return of Mr. Suarez to the United States as soon as possible " the letter concludes.

Senator Tsongas was joined by Senators Levin, Hawkins, Lugar, Dixon, Hollings, Chaffee, Brady, Bentsen, Bumpers, Riegle, Heinz, Hayakawa, Stafford, Weicker, Baucus, Domenici, Chiles, D'Amato, Moynihan, Durenberger and Cranston in the appeal to the Cuban President.

Mr. Suarez' wife, Mrs. Celia von Mering Suarez of Arlington, who gave birth to their first child in May, has been working closely with Senator Tsongas and his staff to win her husband's release. " I am enormously grateful to Senator Tsongas and his colleagues for the personal interest which they have taken in my husband's case " she said.

" I am thankful to my colleagues in the Senate for their support " Senator Tsongas said. " I hope that President Castro will respond to our request and arrange the return of Mr. Suarez to his home and family as soon as possible " he concluded.