

In The News

Akerman Policy Consultant Matthew Aho Highlights Regulatory Realities for Cuban-American Investment

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In a significant policy shift aimed at addressing a severe domestic economic crisis, the Cuban government has expressed a new willingness to allow the Cuban-American diaspora to invest in the island's private sector and real estate without requiring local residency. This overture by Cuban officials represents a departure from decades of restricted commercial engagement with the exile community; however, the path to implementation remains complex due to the existing legal framework.

In a *Wall Street Journal* article titled, "Cuban Regime Wants Diaspora to Own Businesses on the Island," Matthew Aho, senior Cuba policy consultant, points out that while Havana may be opening its doors, the current U.S. regulatory environment and standing sanctions continue to govern the ability of Americans to engage in such transactions. Matthew notes that "it takes two to tango," suggesting that for these new opportunities to become a reality for entrepreneurs, a reciprocal alignment of both Cuban and U.S. policy would be necessary.

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