

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3722

To repeal the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery Act of 2001.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2010

Mr. INHOFE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To repeal the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery
Act of 2001.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Zimbabwe Sanctions
5 Repeal Act of 2010”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Robert Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe and
9 leader of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Pa-
10 triotic Front, has ruled Zimbabwe for 30 years.

1 (2) During President Mugabe’s regime,
2 Zimbabwe has gone from being the “bread basket”
3 of Africa to the world’s fastest shrinking economy.

4 (3) In 2000, the Government of Zimbabwe initi-
5 ated a farmland redistribution program, designed to
6 reallocate foreign commercial farmland to poor and
7 middle-class citizens of Zimbabwe.

8 (4) The redistribution program led to the con-
9 fiscation of industrial, fertile, and previously settled
10 lands, led to mass chaos, undermined the Constitu-
11 tion of Zimbabwe, and caused more than 400,000
12 farmers to lose their homes and livelihoods.

13 (5) In 2005, President Mugabe implemented a
14 project known as Operation Murambatsvina, trans-
15 lated into English as Operation “Clean Out the
16 Filth”.

17 (6) Under Operation Clean Out the Filth, the
18 Mugabe regime bulldozed and destroyed thousands
19 of homes and businesses, leading to an estimated
20 700,000 internally displaced persons.

21 (7) The majority of the people of Zimbabwe live
22 on less than one dollar a day.

23 (8) The current unemployment rate in
24 Zimbabwe is 95 percent, which has forced an esti-
25 mated 3,000,000 of the people of Zimbabwe, a quar-

1 ter of the overall population, to migrate to neigh-
2 boring countries.

3 (9) All of those actions by President Mugabe's
4 regime have caused significant economic hardships
5 that persist in Zimbabwe.

6 (10) Presidential elections were held on March
7 29, 2008, between President Mugabe and Morgan
8 Tsvangirai, leader of the opposition party, the Move-
9 ment for Democratic Change.

10 (11) Tsvangirai won 47.8 percent of the vote,
11 compared to President Mugabe's 43.2 percent.

12 (12) Because Tsvangirai failed to achieve 50
13 percent of the votes needed to win outright, a run-
14 off was scheduled for June 27, 2008.

15 (13) President Mugabe declared that, regard-
16 less of the election outcome, he would not relinquish
17 power, and directed a crackdown on opposition par-
18 ties, stating, "Only God, who appointed me, will re-
19 move me".

20 (14) As many as 400 members and supporters
21 of the Movement for Democratic Change were killed
22 during the run-off campaign period.

23 (15) Tsvangirai dropped out of the run-off race,
24 and took refuge in the Embassy of the Netherlands,

1 stating that he could not ask people to vote “when
2 that vote could cost them their lives”.

3 (16) The violence surrounding this unfair elec-
4 tion came to the world’s attention and specifically to
5 that of the Southern African Development Commu-
6 nity, comprised of 15 southern African countries,
7 and the United States.

8 (17) Pressure from the Southern African Devel-
9 opment Community and the United States led to the
10 creation of a power-sharing agreement between
11 Mugabe’s Zimbabwe African National Union-Patri-
12 otic Front and Tsvangirai’s Movement for Demo-
13 cratic Change called the Global Political Agreement,
14 which was signed into effect on September 15, 2008.

15 (18) The Parliament of Zimbabwe amended the
16 Constitution of Zimbabwe to allow for the creation
17 of the power-sharing government.

18 (19) Mugabe remained President and
19 Tsvangirai was sworn in as the Prime Minister of
20 Zimbabwe on February 11, 2009, and Tendai Biti
21 was appointed Minister of Finance by Prime Min-
22 ister Tsvangirai.

23 (20) Since the appointment of Biti as Minister
24 of Finance, the economy of Zimbabwe has seen re-
25 markable recovery in a short period of time. For ex-

1 ample, to combat inflation, Minister Biti abandoned
2 the currency of Zimbabwe and adopted foreign cur-
3 rencies, including the United States dollar and
4 South African rand, and subsequently reduced the
5 previous inflation rate of 15,000,000,000 percent in
6 2008 to 5.1 percent one year later.

7 (21) During Biti's time as Minister of Finance,
8 the real gross domestic product of Zimbabwe also
9 improved, increasing from negative 14.4 percent in
10 2008 to a positive 3.7 percent in 2009.

11 (22) The salaries of government employees have
12 also been reissued, allowing those employed in basic
13 government services like medicine, education, and
14 transportation to return to work.

15 (23) The overall economy and well-being of the
16 citizens of Zimbabwe have made tremendous ad-
17 vances since Tsvangirai and the Movement for
18 Democratic Change have gained power-sharing au-
19 thority in the Government of Zimbabwe.

20 (24) In 2001, the Zimbabwe Democracy and
21 Economic Recovery Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-
22 99; 22 U.S.C. 2151 note) was enacted into law in
23 the United States, imposing sanctions on the
24 Mugabe regime and members of the Zimbabwe Afri-
25 can National Union-Patriotic Front.

1 (25) Section 4(c) of the Zimbabwe Democracy
2 and Economic Recovery Act of 2001 specifically di-
3 rects the United States Executive Director to each
4 international financial institution to oppose and vote
5 against any extension by the institution of any loan,
6 credit, or guarantee to the Government of Zimbabwe
7 or any cancellation or reduction of indebtedness
8 owed by the Government of Zimbabwe to the United
9 States or any international financial institution.

10 (26) In order to restore fully the economy of
11 Zimbabwe and assist in the process of transition to
12 democracy, the sanctions imposed under the
13 Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery Act
14 of 2001 and burdening the power-sharing govern-
15 ment in Zimbabwe must be repealed.

16 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF ZIMBABWE DEMOCRACY AND ECO-**
17 **NOMIC RECOVERY ACT OF 2001.**

18 The Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery
19 Act of 2001 (Public Law 107–99; 22 U.S.C. 2151 note)
20 is repealed.

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