

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1112

To require a report on the military coup in Burma, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. BUCHANAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To require a report on the military coup in Burma, and
for other purposes.

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 “Protect Democracy in
5 Burma Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) On March 14, 2005, the House of Rep-
9 resentatives agreed to H. Res. 135, which estab-
10 lished the House Democracy Assistance Commission

1 (later changed to the House Democracy Partnership,
2 hereafter referred to as “HDP”) to work directly
3 with parliaments around the world to support the
4 development of effective, independent, and respon-
5 sive legislative institutions.

6 (2) HDP approved a legislative strengthening
7 partnership with Burma in 2016 and organized the
8 first congressional delegation to meet with the new
9 civilian-led government, led by State Counselor Aung
10 San Suu Kyi, and civil society leaders in May 2016.

11 (3) On February 2, 2021, the U.S. Department
12 of State assessed that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the
13 leader of Burma’s ruling party, and President Win
14 Myint, the duly elected head of government, were de-
15 posed in a military coup on February 1, 2021.

16 (4) As part of the military coup, the Burmese
17 military declared martial law, suspended the civilian-
18 led government, and detained newly elected Members
19 of Parliament in the capitol, Naypyidaw, thereby
20 usurping the role of the democratically elected gov-
21 ernment and parliament.

22 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

23 It is the sense of Congress that—

24 (1) due to the Burmese military’s seizure of
25 government through the detention of State Coun-

1 seller Aung San Suu Kyi, President Win Myint, and
2 other government leaders, Burma is not represented
3 by a democratically elected government;

4 (2) the inability of newly elected Members of
5 Parliament to begin their official mandate due to the
6 Burmese military's actions directly threatens the
7 democratic trajectory of Burma's Parliament, and
8 thereby the country;

9 (3) the will and determination of those duly-
10 elected Members of Parliament who are taking it
11 upon themselves to continue serving as representa-
12 tives of the people through alternative methods of
13 communicating and convening should be lauded; and

14 (4) by preventing the Parliament from com-
15 pleting its work, the Burmese military has rendered
16 impossible and effectively nullified the international
17 collaborative relationships that have supported and
18 strengthened the institution, including the Burmese
19 parliament's partnership with HDP.

20 **SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

21 It is the policy of the United States to—

22 (1) engage with the Association of Southeast
23 Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN member
24 states to—

25 (A) condemn the military coup in Burma;

1 (B) urge the unconditional release of de-
2 tained democratically elected leaders and civil
3 society members; and

4 (C) support a return to Burma's demo-
5 cratic transition; and

6 (2) instruct, as appropriate, representatives of
7 the United States Government to use the voice, vote,
8 and influence of the United States at the United
9 Nations to hold accountable those responsible for the
10 military coup in Burma.

11 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

12 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
13 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to
14 the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on
15 Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the
16 Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on
17 Appropriations of the Senate a report on the military coup
18 in Burma, including a description of efforts to implement
19 the policy specified in section 4.

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