

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 1112, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

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:

1 (1) On March 14, 2005, the House of Rep-
2 representatives agreed to H. Res. 135, which estab-
3 lished the House Democracy Assistance Commission
4 (later changed to the House Democracy Partnership,
5 hereafter referred to as “HDP”) to work directly
6 with parliaments around the world to support the
7 development of effective, independent, and respon-
8 sive legislative institutions.

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

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

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

1 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) due to the Burmese military's seizure of
4 government through the detention of State Coun-
5 sellor Aung San Suu Kyi, President Win Myint, and
6 other government leaders, Burma is not represented
7 by a democratically-elected government;

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

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

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

24 **SEC. 4. POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES REGARDING BUR-**
25 **MA'S DEMOCRACY.**

26 It is the policy of the United States to—

1 (1) condemn the military coup in Burma, to
2 urge the unconditional release of detained democrat-
3 ically-elected leaders and civil society members, and
4 to support a return to Burma's democratic transi-
5 tion;

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; and

11 (3) engage with the Association of Southeast
12 Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN member
13 states to promote a return to Burma's democratic
14 transition and democratic values throughout South-
15 east Asia, and support the centrality of ASEAN
16 within the regional architecture of the Indo-Pacific.

17 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

18 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
19 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to
20 the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on
21 Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the
22 Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on
23 Appropriations of the Senate a report on the military coup
24 in Burma, including a description of efforts to implement
25 the policy specified in section 4.