

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1112

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 22, 2021

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Protect Democracy in
3 Burma Act of 2021”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

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

14 (2) HDP approved a legislative strengthening
15 partnership with Burma in 2016 and organized the
16 first congressional delegation to meet with the new
17 civilian-led government, led by State Counselor Aung
18 San Suu Kyi, and civil society leaders in May 2016.

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

24 (4) As part of the military coup, the Burmese
25 military declared martial law, suspended the civilian-
26 led government, and detained newly elected Members

1 of Parliament in the capitol, Naypyidaw, thereby
2 usurping the role of the democratically elected gov-
3 ernment and parliament.

4 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

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

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

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

21 (4) by preventing the Parliament from com-
22 pleting its work, the Burmese military has rendered
23 impossible and effectively nullified the international
24 collaborative relationships that have supported and

1 strengthened the institution, including the Burmese
2 parliament's partnership with HDP.

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

5 It is the policy of the United States to—

6 (1) condemn the military coup in Burma, to
7 urge the unconditional release of detained democrat-
8 ically-elected leaders and civil society members, and
9 to support a return to Burma's democratic transi-
10 tion;

11 (2) instruct, as appropriate, representatives of
12 the United States Government to use the voice, vote,
13 and influence of the United States at the United
14 Nations to hold accountable those responsible for the
15 military coup in Burma; and

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

22 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

23 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
24 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to
25 the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on

Attest: **CHERYL L. JOHNSON,**
Clerk.