

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 200

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the immediate and unconditional release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2007

Mr. KING of New York (for himself and Mr. LANTOS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the immediate and unconditional release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Whereas in 1990 the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), a military junta in Burma, nullified the victory of the National League for Democracy (NLD);

Whereas NLD leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was not allowed to assume the office of Prime Minister and was subsequently placed under house arrest;

Whereas Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was released in July 1995, yet once again placed under house arrest in September 2000;

Whereas following a second release, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and several of her followers were attacked by a govern-

ment-sponsored mob on May 6, 2002, and she was then imprisoned at Insein Prison in Yangon;

Whereas on May 16, 2007, more than 50 world leaders released a letter demanding the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, a demand repeated by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 14 United Nations human rights experts, the European Union, the United States, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the foreign ministers of three ASEAN member states, yet on May 27 her detention was extended;

Whereas for her non-violent struggle for democracy and human rights, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991;

Whereas the ruling military junta in Burma continues to violate the human rights of Burmese citizens, including the systematic use of rape as a weapon of war and extrajudicial killings;

Whereas the armed forces in Burma have been accused of large-scale trafficking in heroin and methamphetamines;

Whereas the Burmese Government has destroyed more than 3,000 villages, displaced approximately 2 million Burmese people, and arrested approximately 1,300 individuals for expressing critical opinions;

Whereas Burma's main broadcasters and publications are state controlled and the media does not report opposing views except to criticize them;

Whereas on September 30, 2006, the United Nations Security Council officially included Burma on its agenda for the first time;

Whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) denounced the ruling military regime of Burma

on June 22, 2007, citing the use of detainees as porters for the armed forces and the systematic abuse and murder of both detainees and civilians;

Whereas the last time the ICRC publicly denounced egregious, ongoing, and systemic human rights abuses was in 1994 when the ICRC addressed genocide in Rwanda; and

Whereas the ICRC stated that civilians, especially those residing near the Thai-Burma border, have been subjected to abuse such as destruction of their food supply and forced unpaid manual labor: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) it is the sense of Congress that United
4 States policy should continue to call upon—

5 (A) the military regime in Burma—

6 (i) to immediately and unconditionally
7 release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other
8 detained political prisoners and prisoners
9 of conscience;

10 (ii) to immediately cease attacks
11 against ethnic minority civilians; and

12 (iii) to immediately begin a meaning-
13 ful process of tripartite dialogue with Daw
14 Aung San Suu Kyi, the NLD, and Bur-
15 ma's ethnic nationalities; and

16 (B) the People's Republic of China and
17 other countries that provide political and eco-

1 nomic support to Burma’s military junta to uti-
2 lize their position and influence to—

3 (i) urge Burma’s military generals to
4 immediately release Daw Aung San Suu
5 Kyi and all political prisoners; and

6 (ii) end their attacks on ethnic minor-
7 ity civilians and begin a meaningful proc-
8 ess of genuine national reconciliation with
9 Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the NLD, and
10 Burma’s ethnic nationalities;

11 (2) Congress urges the United Nations Security
12 Council to immediately consider and take appro-
13 priate action to respond to the growing threat the
14 SPDC poses in Burma;

15 (3) Congress expresses support for the restora-
16 tion of democracy in Burma; and

17 (4) Congress expresses the need for freedom of
18 assembly, freedom of movement, freedom of speech,
19 and freedom of the press to be guaranteed for all
20 Burmese citizens.

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