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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

August 1, 2024

The Honorable Maris Sangiampongsa  
Foreign Minister, Royal Thai Government  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
443 Sri Ayudhya Road  
Bangkok 10400

Dear Foreign Minister Maris,

I write to express my deep concern regarding the current political developments in Thailand, particularly the legal challenges facing the Move Forward Party.

The 2023 election saw an unprecedented turnout, with over 39 million Thai citizens casting their votes in the largest democratic exercise in your country's history. The Move Forward Party (MFP) secured a significant victory, reflecting the will and voices of over 14 million Thais. Despite this clear mandate, MFP was unable to form a government and the Election Commission has submitted a petition to dissolve the Party. I have been alarmed over the apparent lack of due process and transparency in these proceedings. If the MFP is dissolved, this decision will effectively disenfranchise millions of voters who called for progressive change and democratic reform. This action threatens to undermine Thailand's commitment to democracy and human rights, shared values that have anchored our bilateral partnership for over 190 years.

Our two countries have a long-standing and valued partnership that has at its core a shared commitment to promote peace and democratic principles, in the region and globally. I urge the Thai government to respect the will of its people and uphold the democratic values that have long been the foundation of our enduring alliance. I sincerely hope that Thailand will navigate this period with a steadfast commitment to democracy and the rule of law, ensuring that the voices of its people are heard and respected. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin  
Chairman