

Manager's Resolving Clause Amendment

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—117th Cong., 1st Sess.**S. Res. 176**

Urging all parties in Georgia to seek prompt implementation of the agreement signed on April 19, 2021, and reaffirming the support of the Senate for Georgia, the territorial integrity of Georgia, and the aspirations of Georgians to join the Euro-Atlantic community.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by Mrs. SHAHEEN

Viz:

- 1 Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the fol-
- 2 lowing: “That the Senate—
- 3 (1) welcomes the decision by most political par-
- 4 ties in Georgia to sign the agreement mediated
- 5 under the auspices of the European Union and the
- 6 United States on April 19, 2021;
- 7 (2) calls on the United National Movement and
- 8 other remaining opposition parties to sign the April
- 9 19 agreement immediately and on all parties to co-

1 operate in good faith with other parties to fully exe-
2 cute the letter and spirit of the agreement;

3 (3) calls on all parties and elected Members of
4 Parliament to begin work without further delay on
5 the challenges facing Georgia, including con-
6 sequences of the COVID–19 pandemic, a weakened
7 economy, further meaningful democratic reforms,
8 and challenging regional dynamics;

9 (4) calls on the Government of Georgia, headed
10 by a coalition led by Georgian Dream, to institute
11 systemic reforms, developed through an inclusive
12 and transparent consultation process with stake-
13 holders, to ensure that the judicial system is impar-
14 tial, merit-based, and independent and not used for
15 political or partisan ends, including by fully adopting
16 and implementing the recommendations of the Euro-
17 pean Commission for Democracy through Law (com-
18 monly known as the “Venice Commission”) and
19 other experts;

20 (5) calls on the Government of Georgia to insti-
21 tute inclusively and transparently developed systemic
22 electoral reforms to address the underlying causes of
23 the political impasse and avoid a recurrence of such
24 a crisis, including by fully adopting and imple-
25 menting the recommendations of the Office for

1 Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the
2 Organization for Security and Co-operation in Eu-
3 rope (OSCE/ODIHR);

4 (6) emphasizes the importance of seeing those
5 electoral reforms fully implemented ahead of the
6 planned October 2021 municipal elections, which
7 must be conducted in a way that constitutes a step
8 forward in Georgia's democratic progress, and
9 should be overseen by strong international election
10 observation missions;

11 (7) recognizes that the political situation in
12 Georgia has been exacerbated by the efforts of the
13 Russian Federation to sow chaos throughout Geor-
14 gia, including the illegally occupied territories of
15 Abkhazia and South Ossetia;

16 (8) expresses concern that impediments to
17 strengthening Georgia's democratic institutions and
18 processes will slow its progress toward achieving its
19 aspiration of Euro-Atlantic integration and strength-
20 ening its economy and could result in conditions
21 placed on United States assistance to Georgia;

22 (9) expresses support for the Government of the
23 United States to seek all means at its disposal to in-
24 crease trade and investment between the United
25 States and Georgia and improve trade and invest-

1 ment in the broader region of the Caucasus, on the
2 condition that all components of the April 19 agree-
3 ment are met in letter and spirit; and

4 (10) emphasizes that the United States sup-
5 ports a more robust democracy in Georgia, with gov-
6 erning institutions that demonstrate integrity, pro-
7 fessionalism, checks and balances, equal treatment
8 under the law, transparency, the capacity to counter
9 Russian and other malign influence, and the ability
10 to achieve the Euro-Atlantic aspirations of the peo-
11 ple of Georgia.