

## Manager's Preamble Amendment

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: To amend the preamble.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—117th Cong., 1st Sess.****S. Res. 35**

Condemning the military coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military's detention of civilian leaders, calling for an immediate and unconditional release of all those detained and for those elected to serve in parliament to resume their duties without impediment, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. CARDIN

Viz:

1 Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas Burma's November 8, 2020, elections resulted in the National League for Democracy party securing enough seats in Parliament to form the next government, notwithstanding the disenfranchisement of more than 1,500,000 voters, mostly from ethnic minority communities in Kachin, Karen, Mon, Rakhine, Shan, and Chin states;

Whereas, on January 28, 2021, the Union Election Commission rejected allegations by the military of Burma (the "Tatmadaw") that fraud played a significant role in determining the outcome of the November 2020 elections;

Whereas, on February 1, 2021, the Tatmadaw and its aligned Union Solidarity and Development Party (“USDP”) conducted a military coup against the civilian government hours before Parliament was to convene in a new session, resulting in the military junta illegally detaining State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi, President Win Myint, and members of Parliament, as well as pro-democracy activists from the 88 Generation and other civil society leaders;

Whereas the Tatmadaw restricted freedom of movement, telecommunications, and the media, limiting access to information to and from Burma during a political and public health crisis;

Whereas senior generals of the Tatmadaw have been sanctioned by the United States Government for serious human rights abuses and for their role in the coup and are subject to ongoing investigations into their conduct by the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice;

Whereas, since August 25, 2017, 740,000 Rohingya have fled northern Rakhine State to neighboring Bangladesh to escape a systematic campaign of atrocities by Burma’s military and security forces, and over three years later, conditions are still not conducive to the safe, voluntary, and dignified return of the Rohingya to Burma;

Whereas, according to the Department of State’s August 24, 2018, report entitled “Documentation of Atrocities in Northern Rakhine State”, violence committed by the Burmese military (Tatmadaw) against the Rohingya, including from August to October 2017, was not only “extreme, large-scale, widespread, and seemingly geared toward both terrorizing the population and driving out the

Rohingya residents,” but also “well-planned and coordinated”;

Whereas, on August 28, 2018, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations told the United Nations Security Council that the Department of State report’s findings were “consistent with” those in an August 27, 2018, report by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar (IIFMM) which urged that top Burmese military officials be investigated and prosecuted for genocide; and

Whereas Secretary of State Antony Blinken committed at his nomination hearing before the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate on January 19, 2021, and in subsequent written responses to questions for the record, that he will oversee an interagency review of whether the atrocities committed against the Rohingya in Burma constitute genocide: Now therefore be it