

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—114th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. Res. 485

To encourage the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to abide by constitutional provisions regarding the holding of presidential elections in 2016, with the aim of ensuring a peaceful and orderly democratic transition of power.

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 Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mr. MARKEY)

Viz:

- 1 Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the fol-
- 2 lowing: “That the Senate—
- 3 (1) expresses concern with respect to the failure
- 4 of the DRC to take actions required to hold elections
- 5 in November 2016 as required by the Constitution
- 6 of the DRC;
- 7 (2) recognizes that impunity and lack of effec-
- 8 tive rule of law undermine democracy, and that the
- 9 arrest and detention of civil society activists and the

1 harassment of political opponents close political
2 space and repress peaceful dissent;

3 (3) reaffirms its support for democracy and
4 good governance in sub-Saharan Africa;

5 (4) calls on the Government of the DRC and all
6 other parties to respect the Constitution of the DRC
7 and to ensure a free, open, peaceful, and democratic
8 transition of power as constitutionally required;

9 (5) urges the Government of the DRC to dem-
10 onstrate leadership and commitment to elections by
11 accelerating concrete steps towards holding elections,
12 including voter registration and protecting partisan
13 political speech and activities;

14 (6) encourages the Government of the DRC and
15 all other relevant parties to engage now in a focused,
16 urgent discussion to advance the electoral process
17 and reach consensus rapidly on the way forward by
18 establishing a detailed electoral calendar for all elec-
19 tions and enabling the candidate selection and cam-
20 paign process; and

21 (7) urges the President of the United States, in
22 close coordination with regional and international
23 partners, to—

24 (A) continuously verify that such necessary
25 technical dialogue occurs and proceeds in a time

1 and manner required to ensure the conduct of
2 timely elections;

3 (B) use appropriate means to ensure these
4 objectives, which may include imposition of ad-
5 ditional targeted sanctions on individuals or en-
6 tities responsible for violence and human rights
7 violations and undermining democratic proc-
8 esses in the DRC at any point in the process;
9 and

10 (C) continue United States policy with re-
11 spect to providing support for the organizing of
12 free, fair, and peaceful national elections.