

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 420 Session of  
2009

INTRODUCED BY JOSEPHS, GEORGE, COHEN, READSHAW, REICHLEY, MUNDY,  
SIPTROTH, YOUNGBLOOD, GINGRICH, DENLINGER, BRADFORD, RAPP,  
MURT AND MELIO, JULY 20, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, JULY 20,  
2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Calling on the United Nations to facilitate the immediate and  
2 unconditional release of National League for Democracy leader  
3 Dr. Aung San Suu Kyi from continued detention by the Burmese  
4 military government.

5 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of  
6 Pennsylvania recognize and condemn the Burmese military junta's  
7 unlawful and cruel treatment of more than 2,000 political  
8 prisoners, including Dr. Suu Kyi; and

9 WHEREAS, Burma's military government has subjected the Nobel  
10 Peace Prize laureate to house arrest since 1989; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Suu Kyi was initially detained for pro-reform  
12 demonstrations as a founder of the National League for  
13 Democracy; and

14 WHEREAS, Myanmar's 1975 State Protection Act empowers the  
15 government to hold persons for up to five years without trial;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The government has illegally extended Dr. Suu Kyi's  
18 detention, providing for her repeated release and reconfinement;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Suu Kyi's detention period beginning in May 2003  
3 was illegally extended for one year on May 27, 2008, and was  
4 officially lifted on May 26, 2009; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Suu Kyi is now an inmate of Insein Prison,  
6 facing trial and conviction for violating the terms of her house  
7 arrest; and

8 WHEREAS, The charges stem from an incident on May 14, 2009,  
9 when John William Yettaw, an American who illegally entered  
10 Burma, swam to Dr. Suu Kyi's waterfront home and sheltered  
11 there, pleading exhaustion; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Suu Kyi's own health is deteriorating as her  
13 confinement has been illegally extended; and

14 WHEREAS, Dehydration, low blood pressure and dangerous weight  
15 loss are some of the physical conditions Dr. Suu Kyi is believed  
16 to have developed; and

17 WHEREAS, Security forces detained Dr. Suu Kyi's personal  
18 physician, Dr. Tin Myo Win, after having denied him entry to her  
19 home in May 2009; and

20 WHEREAS, The United States State Department has said that  
21 Burmese authorities are pursuing unjustified and indefensible  
22 charges against Dr. Suu Kyi; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Suu Kyi's extended detainment violates  
24 international law; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. Suu Kyi's extended detainment violates Burma's  
26 domestic legislation; and

27 WHEREAS, Various governments, international agencies and  
28 nongovernmental organizations have called for the immediate  
29 release of Dr. Suu Kyi; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the

1 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania call on the United Nations to  
2 facilitate the immediate and unconditional release of National  
3 League for Democracy leader Dr. Aung Suu Kyi from continued  
4 detention by the Burmese military government; and be it further  
5       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
6 Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Ambassador Susan Rice in care  
7 of the United States Mission to the United Nations in New York,  
8 140 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017.