

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.13

Senator Bizon offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to stand with the Burmese communities of Battle
2 Creek and Springfield in supporting democracy and opposing military
3 coups.

4 Whereas, On February 1, Myanmar's military seized control of
5 the nation's government and detained the democratically elected
6 civilian leader, Aung San Suu Kyi. Suu Kyi and other prominent
7 members of the ruling National League for Democracy (NLD) were
8 taken into custody at gunpoint. The U.S. State Department has
9 officially declared the takeover a coup d'etat; and

10 Whereas, Since taking power, the military has assailed the
11 basic rights of a free society, including the freedoms of speech,
12 assembly, and religion, and the right to petition the government
13 for redress of grievances. Prominent members of civil society,

1 including monks and artists, have been detained while other
2 activists have gone into hiding out of fear that they would be
3 targeted. Soldiers have indicated those who participate in protests
4 would be arrested; and

5 Whereas, These freedoms, along with the right to free and fair
6 elections, are crucial to any free society. This coup d'etat
7 threatens Myanmar's recent progress after transitioning out of
8 military rule and holding its first elections in 2015; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 Resolved by the Senate, That we stand with the Burmese
11 communities of Battle Creek and Springfield in supporting democracy
12 and opposing military coups; and be it further

13 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
14 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States
15 House of Representatives, the President of the United States
16 Senate, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and
17 the Burma Center.