

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4286

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 18, 2007

Received

JANUARY 22 (legislative day, JANUARY 3), 2008

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban  
Affairs

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## AN ACT

To award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) Aung San Suu Kyi was born on June 19,  
4 1945, in Rangoon, Burma, to Aung San, commander  
5 of the Burma Independence Army, and Ma Khin  
6 Kyi.

7 (2) On August 15, 1988, Ms. Suu Kyi, in her  
8 first political action, sent an open letter to the mili-  
9 tary controlled government asking for free, open,  
10 and multi-party elections.

11 (3) On September 24, 1988, the National  
12 League for Democracy (NLD) was formed, with Ms.  
13 Suu Kyi as the general-secretary, and it was, and re-  
14 mains, dedicated to a policy of non-violence and civil  
15 disobedience.

16 (4) Ms. Suu Kyi was subsequently placed under  
17 house arrest, where she remained for the next 6  
18 years—without being charged or put on trial—and  
19 has been imprisoned twice more; she currently re-  
20 mains under house arrest.

21 (5) Despite her detention, the National League  
22 for Democracy won an open election with an over-  
23 whelming 82 percent of the vote—which the military  
24 junta nullified.

1           (6) While under house arrest, she has bravely  
2 refused offers to leave the country to continue to  
3 promote freedom and democracy in Burma.

4           (7) For her efforts on behalf of the Burmese  
5 people, she has been awarded the Sakharov Prize for  
6 Freedom of Thought in 1990, the Presidential  
7 Medal of Freedom in 2000, and the Nobel Peace  
8 Prize in 1991.

9           (8) Ms. Suu Kyi continues to fight on behalf of  
10 the Burmese people, even donating her \$1.3 million  
11 from her Nobel Prize to establish a health and edu-  
12 cation fund for Burma.

13           (9) She is the world's only imprisoned Nobel  
14 Peace Prize recipient, spending more than 12 of the  
15 past 17 years under house arrest.

16           (10) Despite an assassination attempt against  
17 her life, her prolonged illegal imprisonment, the con-  
18 stant public vilification of her character, and her in-  
19 ability to see her children or to see her husband be-  
20 fore his death, Ms. Suu Kyi remains committed to  
21 peaceful dialogue with her captors, Burma's military  
22 regime, and Burma's ethnic nationalities towards  
23 bringing democracy, human rights, and national rec-  
24 onciliation to Burma.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

2 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of  
3 the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem-  
4 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements  
5 for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold  
6 medal of appropriate design, to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi  
7 in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commit-  
8 ment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy  
9 in Burma.

10 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the  
11 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary  
12 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-  
13 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,  
14 devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Sec-  
15 retary.

16 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

17 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in  
18 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2  
19 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at  
20 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,  
21 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,  
22 and the cost of the gold medal.

23 **SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

24 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-  
25 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter  
26 51 of title 31, United States Code.

1 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections  
2 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals  
3 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic  
4 items.

5 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**  
6 **SALE.**

7 (a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is  
8 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint  
9 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-  
10 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant  
11 to this Act.

12 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the  
13 sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section  
14 3 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public  
15 Enterprise Fund.

Passed the House of Representatives December 17,  
2007.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
*Clerk.*