

SRES 376

A resolution urging the Governments of Burma and Bangladesh to ensure the safe, dignified, voluntary, and sustainable return of the Rohingya refugees who have been displaced by the campaign of ethnic cleansing conducted by the Burmese military.

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Jan 23, 2018

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 358.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 358. (Mar 21, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-resolution/376>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Jan 23, 2018
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		Jan 25, 2018
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 29, 2018
Sen. Perdue, David [R-GA]	R · GA		Mar 12, 2018
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 20, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Reported By	Mar 21, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 23, 2018)

Condemns: (1) the violence and displacement inflicted on Burma's (Myanmar's) Rohingya and other ethnic minorities, and (2) the attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army militant group. Calls for an immediate halt to all hostilities by Burmese authorities.

Calls on:

- the government of Burma to allow full access to Rakhine State and to ensure the full participation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and that the voices of refugees are represented,
- the UNHCR and international nongovernmental organizations to play a role in monitoring repatriation efforts by the governments of Bangladesh and Burma, and
- the United Nations to consider the feasibility of Bangladesh's proposal for a safe zone or for a peacekeeping mission to protect vulnerable communities under international supervision.

Commends: (1) the positive role of the government of Bangladesh in receiving Rohingya refugees and urges that government to continue allowing the full participation of the UNHCR and human rights organizations in accessing refugee camps, and (2) the Bangladesh's efforts to provide shelter and relief for such refugees.

Calls for any return of Rohingya to include specified guarantees.

Recognizes that any forced relocation of Rohingya refugees into areas not of their choosing is unacceptable.

Calls on the government of Burma to:

- allow for a flexible and practical approach to dealing with evidence of Rohingya residence in Burma;
- address root causes consistent with the Rakhine Advisory Commission recommendations and fully implement such recommendations;
- address the issue of statelessness for the Rohingya, the deprivation of rights, and institutionalized and pervasive discrimination; and
- release journalists Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo.

Calls on the government of Bangladesh to ensure that all refugees have freedom of movement and are not subject to unsafe, involuntary, precipitous, or uninformed returns to Burma.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 21, 2018:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Corker with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title and with an amended preamble. Without written report.
- **Mar 21, 2018:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 358.
- **Mar 20, 2018:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jan 23, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 23, 2018:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text of measure as introduced: CR S468-469)