

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. Res. 168

Supporting respect for human rights and encouraging
inclusive governance in Ethiopia.

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. CARDIN

Viz:

- 1 Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the fol-
- 2 lowing: “That the Senate—
- 3 (1) condemns—
- 4 (A) killings of peaceful protesters and ex-
- 5 cessive use of force by Ethiopian security
- 6 forces;
- 7 (B) arrest and detention of journalists,
- 8 students, activists and political leaders who ex-
- 9 ercise their constitutional rights to freedom of
- 10 assembly and expression through peaceful pro-
- 11 tests; and

1 (C) abuse of the Anti-Terrorism Proclama-
2 tion to stifle political and civil dissent and jour-
3 nalististic freedoms;

4 (2) urges protesters in Ethiopia to refrain from
5 violence, and to reject any and all violence in dem-
6 onstrations;

7 (3) calls on the Government of Ethiopia to—

8 (A) use the opportunity to address broad
9 and persistent concerns expressed across large
10 swathes of the citizenry, which history has
11 noted will, if neglected or ignored, only increase
12 tension and diminish the prospect of capital-
13 izing on much economic progress and signifi-
14 cant development opportunities that remain for
15 Ethiopia;

16 (B) end the practice of excessive force by
17 security forces, enforce professional discipline,
18 and hold accountable security forces responsible
19 for such abuses;

20 (C) grant the United Nations High Com-
21 missioner for Human Rights and United Na-
22 tions Special Rapporteurs access to conduct a
23 comprehensive and independent examination of
24 the state of human rights in Ethiopia, and work
25 with them to improve human rights conditions;

1 (D) conduct a full, credible, and trans-
2 parent investigation into the killings, deten-
3 tions, and instances of excessive use of force
4 that took place in response to protests in the
5 Oromia and Amhara regions and hold account-
6 able security forces accused of such actions
7 through public proceedings, and to publicly re-
8 lease written findings from such investigation;

9 (E) release from incarceration all dis-
10 sidents, members of the political opposition, ac-
11 tivists, and journalists who have been jailed, in-
12 cluding those arrested for reporting about the
13 protests, for exercising constitutional rights;

14 (F) respect the right to freedom of peace-
15 ful assembly and guarantee freedom of the
16 press and mass media in keeping with Articles
17 30 and 29 of the Ethiopian constitution;

18 (G) engage in open and transparent con-
19 sultations relative to its development strategy,
20 especially those strategies that could result in
21 people's displacement from land, offering those
22 displaced from their land the right to seek rem-
23 edy or redress in courts and providing a trans-
24 parent means to access justice for those dis-
25 placed; and

1 (H) cease the use of proclamations that—

2 (i) are used to harass individuals or
3 organizations that engage in peaceful polit-
4 ical dissent or advocate for greater political
5 freedoms; and

6 (ii) prohibit or otherwise limit funding
7 for civil society organizations working on,
8 supporting, or advocating for respect for
9 constitutional rights, the rule of law, and
10 protection of human rights;

11 (4) calls on the Secretary of State to—

12 (A) share the recently concluded inter-
13 agency review of United States security assist-
14 ance with the relevant congressional committees
15 of jurisdiction, as well as a description of cur-
16 rent objectives and criteria that advance critical
17 regional security objectives while mitigating the
18 threat of assistance being misused in the con-
19 text of domestic developments or any other pur-
20 pose other than the intended use;

21 (B) engage with the Government of Ethi-
22 opia in strengthening the bilateral Working
23 Group on Democracy, Governance and Human
24 Rights and provide support for the effective and

1 meaningful implementation of Ethiopia’s Na-
2 tional Human Rights Action Plan;

3 (5) calls on the Administrator of the United
4 States Agency for International Development to lead
5 efforts to develop a comprehensive strategy to sup-
6 port improved democracy and governance in Ethi-
7 opia;

8 (6) calls on the Secretary of State, in conjunc-
9 tion with the Administrator of the United States
10 Agency for International Development, to improve
11 oversight and accountability of United States assist-
12 ance to Ethiopia and to ensure such assistance rein-
13 forces long-term goals for improved governance;

14 (7) calls on the President to apply appropriate
15 sanctions on foreign persons or entities responsible
16 for extrajudicial killings, torture, or other gross vio-
17 lations of internationally recognized human rights
18 committed against any nationals in Ethiopia as pro-
19 vided for in the Global Magnitsky Human Rights
20 Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public
21 Law 114–328); and

22 (8) stands by the people of Ethiopia, and sup-
23 ports their peaceful efforts to increase democratic
24 space and to exercise the rights guaranteed by the
25 Ethiopian constitution.