



Nicaragua-United States

## Friendship Office of the Americas

February 24, 2021

Dear Friend,

Yesterday, the [Honduras Human Rights and Anti-Corruption Act of 2021](#) was introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Jeff Merkley (OR). The bill calls on the United States *"to suspend support for the Government of Honduras until endemic corruption, impunity, and human rights violations cease, and their perpetrators are brought to justice."*

Since the 2009 military coup, Honduras has been [plagued by endemic corruption and rights violations](#)... *ranking as the deadliest country in the world for human rights and environmental defenders on a per capita basis, and human rights violations continue unabated under the cover of COVID-19 pandemic response."*

Senators Bernie Sanders (VT), Patrick Leahy (VT), Ed Markey (MA), Elizabeth Warren (MA), Dick Durbin (IL), Sheldon Whitehouse (RI) and Chris Van Hollen (MD) joined as initial cosponsors. The Bill calls for the:

- Prohibition of US munitions exports to the Honduran police and military
- Suspension of funding for Honduran security forces
- Successful prosecution of all material and intellectual authors of numerous emblematic human rights cases, including the murder of Berta Cáceres
- Sanctions for President Hernández

**We need your help!** Please contact your Senator to co-sponsor the Honduras Human Rights and Anti-Corruption Act!

Script: "My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am a constituent from (your town/city) in (your state). I am calling to ask Senator \_\_\_\_\_ to co-sponsor The Honduras Human Rights and Anti-Corruption Act of 2021. The bill calls "to suspend United States support for the Government of Honduras until endemic corruption, impunity, and human rights violations cease, and their perpetrators are brought to justice." Has Senator \_\_\_\_\_ seen this bill?"

Can I count on him/her to join as a cosponsor? Please call me this week at (\_\_\_\_\_) to let me know if you have seen the letter, and if Senator \_\_\_\_\_ will support."

\*To co-sponsor the bill (or to obtain an official copy of the bill), the Senator's staffer must contact Caroline Kuritzkes or Matt Squeri in Senator Merkley's office.

\*\*Please do not contact Senator Merkley's staff yourself, but ask the staffer to do so.

Please advocate for this bill to stand in solidarity with the Guapinol water defenders, OFRANEH and the Garifuna community, COFADEH and the families of the forcibly disappeared, COPINH and all those fighting for justice for Berta Cáceres, and the countless others who risk their lives every day for peace and justice in Honduras.

In Peace,

Friendship Office

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