

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2779

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## AN ACT

To amend the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery  
Act of 2001.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Zimbabwe Democracy  
3 and Economic Recovery Amendment Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. RECONSTRUCTION AND REBUILDING OF**  
5 **ZIMBABWE.**

6       Section 2 of the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic  
7 Recovery Act of 2001 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note; Public Law  
8 107–99) is amended by striking “and restore the rule of  
9 law” and inserting “restore the rule of law, reconstruct  
10 and rebuild Zimbabwe, and come to terms with the past  
11 through a process of genuine reconciliation that acknowl-  
12 edges past human rights abuses and orders inquiries into  
13 disappearances, including the disappearance of human  
14 rights activists, such as Patrick Nabanyama, Itai  
15 Dzamara, and Paul Chizuze”.

16 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

17       Section 4(a) of the Zimbabwe Democracy and Eco-  
18 nomic Recovery Act of 2001 is amended—

19           (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “costly deploy-  
20 ment of troops to the Democratic Republic of the  
21 Congo” and inserting “private appropriation of pub-  
22 lic assets”; and

23           (2) by adding at the end the following:

24           “(6) In October 2016, the Government of  
25 Zimbabwe cleared a small hurdle in its longstanding  
26 public sector arrears with the IMF.”.

1 **SEC. 4. PROVISIONS RELATED TO MULTILATERAL DEBT RE-**  
2 **LIEF AND OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**

3 Section 4(b)(2) of the Zimbabwe Democracy and  
4 Economic Recovery Act of 2001 is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “to pro-  
6 pose that the bank should undertake a review of the  
7 feasibility of restructuring, rescheduling, or elimi-  
8 nating the sovereign debt of Zimbabwe held by that  
9 bank” and inserting “to support efforts to reeval-  
10 ate plans to restructure, rebuild, reschedule, or  
11 eliminate Zimbabwe’s sovereign debt held by that  
12 bank and provide an analysis based on reasonable fi-  
13 nancial options to achieve those goals”; and

14 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “dollar”  
15 and inserting “currency”.

16 **SEC. 5. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE UNITED STATES-**  
17 **ZIMBABWE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.**

18 It is the sense of Congress that the United States  
19 should seek to forge a stronger bilateral relationship with  
20 Zimbabwe, including in the areas of trade and investment,  
21 if the following conditions are satisfied:

22 (1) The Government of Zimbabwe takes the  
23 concrete, tangible steps outlined in paragraphs (1)  
24 through (4) of section 4(d) of the Zimbabwe Democ-  
25 racy and Economic Recovery Act of 2001, as amend-  
26 ed by section 6 of this Act.

(2) The Government of Zimbabwe takes concrete, tangible steps towards—

(A) good governance, including respect for the opposition, rule of law, and human rights;

(B) economic reforms that promote growth, address unemployment and underdevelopment, restore livelihoods, ensure respect for contracts and private property rights, and promote significant progress toward monetary policy reforms, particularly with the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, and currency exchange reforms; and

(C) identification and recovery of stolen private and public assets within Zimbabwe and in other countries.

(3) The Government of Zimbabwe holds an election that is widely accepted as free and fair, based on the following pre- and post-election criteria or conditions:

(A) Establishment and public release, without cost, of a provisional and a final voter registration roll.

(B) The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission is permitted to entirely carry out the functions assigned to it under section 239 of Zimbabwe's

2013 Constitution in an independent manner,  
and the chairperson meets and consults regularly with representatives of political parties represented in the parliament of Zimbabwe and the parties contesting the elections.

(C) Consistent with Zimbabwe's 2013 Constitution, the Defence Forces of Zimbabwe—

(i) are neither permitted to actively participate in campaigning for any candidate nor to intimidate voters;

(ii) are required to verifiably and credibly uphold their constitutionally-mandated duty to respect the fundamental rights and freedoms of all persons and to be nonpartisan in character; and

(iii) are not permitted to print, transfer, or control ballots or transmit the results of elections.

(D) International observers, including observers from the United States, the African Union, the Southern African Development Community, and the European Union—

(i) are permitted to observe the entire electoral process prior to, on, and following

1           voting day, including by monitoring polling  
2           stations and tabulation centers; and

3           (ii) are able to independently access  
4           and analyze vote tallying tabulation and  
5           the transmission and content of voting re-  
6           sults.

7           (E) Candidates are allowed access to pub-  
8           lic broadcasting media during the election pe-  
9           riod, consistent with Zimbabwe's Electoral Act  
10          and are able to campaign in an environment  
11          that is free from intimidation and violence.

12          (F) Civil society organizations are able to  
13          freely and independently carry out voter and  
14          civic education and monitor the entire electoral  
15          process, including by observing, recording, and  
16          transmitting publicly-posted or announced vot-  
17          ing results at the ward, constituency, and all  
18          higher levels of the vote tallying process.

19          (4) Laws enacted prior to the passage of  
20          Zimbabwe's March 2013 Constitution that are in-  
21          consistent with the new Constitution are amended,  
22          repealed, or subjected to a formal process for review  
23          and correction so that such laws are consistent with  
24          the new Constitution.

25          (5) The Government of Zimbabwe—

1           (A) has made significant progress on the  
 2           implementation of all elements of the new Con-  
 3           stitution; and

4           (B) has demonstrated its commitment to  
 5           sustain such efforts in achieving full implemen-  
 6           tation of the new Constitution.

7           (6) Traditional leaders of Zimbabwe observe  
 8           section 281 of the 2013 Constitution and are not  
 9           using humanitarian assistance provided by outside  
 10          donor organizations or countries in a politicized  
 11          manner to intimidate or pressure voters during the  
 12          campaign period.

### 13 **SEC. 6. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.**

14          Section 4(d) of the Zimbabwe Democracy and Eco-  
 15          nomic Recovery Act of 2001 is amended—

16           (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “consistent  
 17           with” and all that follows through “September  
 18           1998”;

19           (2) by striking paragraph (4); and

20           (3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para-  
 21          graph (4).

### 22 **SEC. 7. REMOVAL OF AUTHORITY TO PAY LAND ACQUISITION COSTS.**

23           Section 5(a) of the Zimbabwe Democracy and Eco-  
 24          nomic Recovery Act of 2001 is amended—  
 25

1           (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “, including  
2       the payment of costs” and all that follows through  
3       “thereto; and” and inserting a semicolon;

4           (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at  
5       the end and inserting “; and”; and

6           (3) by adding at the end the following:

7           “(4) identify and recover stolen public assets.”.

8   **SEC. 8. INCLUSION OF AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM,**  
9                   **THE AFRICAN UNION, AND THE SOUTHERN**  
10                   **AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY IN**  
11                   **CONSULTATIONS ABOUT ZIMBABWE.**

12       Section 6 of the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic  
13   Recovery Act of 2001 is amended by inserting “Australia,  
14   the United Kingdom, the African Union, the Southern Af-  
15   rican Development Community,” after “Canada,”.

16   **SEC. 9. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ENFORCEMENT OF**  
17                   **SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMU-**  
18                   **NITY TRIBUNAL RULINGS.**

19       It is the sense of Congress that the Government of  
20   Zimbabwe and the Southern African Development Com-  
21   munity (referred to in this section as “SADC”) should en-  
22   force the SADC tribunal rulings issued between 2007 to  
23   2010, including 18 disputes involving employment, com-  
24   mercial, and human rights cases surrounding dispossessed



- 1 Zimbabwean commercial farmers and agricultural compa-
- 2 nies.

Passed the Senate July 25, 2018.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

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