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Malaysian PM-in-waiting Anwar Ibrahim takes oath as lawmaker

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Anwar, 71, was designated as successor to Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad after the two men set aside a bitter feud and united to capture a stunning victory in May's general election.

Malaysian politician Anwar Ibrahim was sworn as a lawmaker at the parliament in Kuala Lumpur, Monday, (AP Photo)

Kuala Lumpur: Malaysian Prime Minister-in-waiting Anwar Ibrahim has taken his oath as a lawmaker, marking his return to active politics three years after he was imprisoned for sodomy in a charge critics said was politically motivated.

The swearing-in ceremony in parliament Monday followed Anwar's huge win in a by-election Saturday in the southern coastal town of Port Dickson. The seat was vacated after a lawmaker from his party quit to pave the way for Anwar's political comeback.

Anwar, 71, was designated as successor to Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad after the two men set aside a bitter feud and united to capture a stunning victory in May's general election. Anwar was freed and received a royal pardon days after the polls. Mahathir has said he expects to step down in two years.

- AP