

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business	Last Vote: 4:00 p.m.
Fifteen "One-minutes" Per Side	

Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.

Floor Schedule and Procedure

- **H. Res. 1065-Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5501-Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Rep. McGovern-Rules):** The structured rule provides two hours of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. McGovern, and will proceed as follows:
 - One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic Motion ordering the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes.**
- **H.R. 5501-Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Rep. Berman-Foreign Affairs):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Rep. Howard Berman, and will proceed as follows:
 - Two hours of debate on the bill.
 - Debate and votes on amendments to the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on passage of the bill.

Bill Summary and Key Issues

H.R. 5501 - TOM LANTOS AND HENRY J. HYDE UNITED STATES GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

Key Provisions of H.R. 5501, the “Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008”

The “United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008” authorizes \$50 billion for the United States’ bilateral and multilateral programs to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria for fiscal years 2009 through 2013. It seeks to continue the bipartisan commitment to aggressively prevent, treat, and care for those living with HIV/AIDS, and cure those with TB and malaria in the least developed countries by launching a second five-year strategy to achieve these goals.

In the first five years of the U.S. response to the global HIV/AIDS pandemic, U.S. policy was driven by the urgency of an emergency response. Under this bill, the United States will develop and implement strategies to transition from the emergency phase to long-term sustainability that can be maintained by the host countries. The new authorization also seeks to further integrate HIV/AIDS programs with TB and malaria programs and create linkages and referrals between them. It enhances testing and treatment under a new strategy to stop the spread of TB, including drug-resistant strains, and requires a comprehensive five year strategy to combat malaria.

The Lantos-Hyde bill strengthens health care delivery systems and rebuilds health care workforces to boost host country capacities to reach and provide HIV/AIDS services to populations that are difficult to reach. Lastly, H.R. 5501 includes a provision that employs the expertise of the Department of the Treasury to work with the finance and health ministries of focus countries to establish public finance management systems for greater accountability. This legislation has the support of Foreign Affairs Chairman Howard Berman, Ranking Republican Member Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, and the White House.

Key Themes for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Policy

- Authorizes a total of \$50 billion for programming to combat the three diseases under the Act for FY 2009 to 2013.
- Continues the ABC model aimed at prevention with strong emphasis on delay of sexual debut, abstinence, partner reduction, and life-skills programs, particularly for women and girls.
- Authorizes HIV/AIDS programs to include linkages to food and nutrition, education and health care programs.
- Increases U.S. contributions to the Global Fund.
- Provides support for scientific research for new vaccines, microbicides, and prevention technologies.
- Strengthens health systems in host countries including hospitals, clinics, laboratories, supply chain management systems, and health workforce capacity building.
- Strengthens the key role of partnerships for community programs, scientific research, policy development and coordination.
- Addresses the particular vulnerabilities to these diseases that are faced by women and children.

- Requires additional reporting to Congress on issues related to United States efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria.

Key Features of HIV/AIDS Policy

- Increases the authorization for U.S. contributions to the Global Fund from \$1 billion to \$2 billion per year.
- Overturns the controversial and ineffective 1/3 abstinence-only requirement that applies to global HIV/AIDS prevention funding and promotes a “balanced” prevention program in target countries, including all elements of the Abstinence, Faithfulness, and Condoms (ABC) approach towards HIV prevention.
- Requires a report to Congress if behavioral change programs, such as abstinence and fidelity, do not receive 50% of the funds devoted to the prevention of sexual transmission of HIV in countries in which there is a generalized HIV epidemic.
- Strengthens language on countering HIV/AIDS for victims of trafficking.
- Enhances programs to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and strengthens programs to address HIV transmission to women and youth more comprehensively.
- Authorizes the expenditure of global HIV/AIDS funding to provide HIV/AIDS testing and counseling services in family planning programs supported by the U.S. government.
- Authorizes HIV/AIDS programs to include linkages to food and nutrition programs to support individuals with HIV/AIDS and those who are in treatment for the disease.
- Sets targets to treat 3 million people, prevent 12 million new infections, provide care for 12 million people living with HIV/AIDS including 5 million orphans with HIV/AIDS, and train health professionals for HIV/AIDS prevention treatment and care.
- Strengthens the role of the Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally.

Key Features of Tuberculosis Policy

- Incorporates H.R. 1567, the Stop Tuberculosis (TB) Now Act of 2007 sponsored by Congressman Engel.
- Creates linkages and requires patient referrals between HIV/AIDS and TB programs.
- Creates new strategy to stop TB by enhancing testing and treatment in countries with high TB rates.
- Creates new strategies for attacking MDR and XDR forms of drug-resistant TB.
- Provides assistance for the World Health Organization Stop Tuberculosis Partnership to meet WHO goals to cut TB deaths and infections in half by 2016.
- Authorizes \$4 billion in funding for stop TB programs for FY 2009-2013 out of the overall amounts authorized by the Act.

Key Features of Malaria Policy

- Requires the President to develop a comprehensive 5–year strategy to combat malaria globally and strengthen United States leadership against this disease.
- Creates a new Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat Malaria Globally.

- Authorizes United States contributions to the WHO Roll Back Malaria Partnership to improve capacity of countries with high rates of malaria to address the disease.
- Supports Center for Disease Control and National Institutes of Health clinical research for new diagnostics, treatments and interventions to prevent, cure and control malaria.
- Authorizes \$5 billion in funding for programs to combat malaria for FY 2009-2013 out of the overall amounts authorized by the Act.

Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 5501

1. Blumenauer (OR): Would add safe drinking water to nutrition and income security on the list of programs for which direct linkages are encouraged. (10 minutes)

2. Fortenberry (NE): Would ensure that audits by the Inspector General include information on subcontractors. (10 minutes)

3. McCollum (MN)/Jackson (IL): Would add Malawi, Swaziland and Lesotho to the list of new “focus” countries proposed to be added in the bill. (10 minutes)

4. Carson (IN): Would direct the Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to expand their plan for strengthening health systems of host countries by allowing for postsecondary educational institutions, particularly in Africa, to collaborate with United States postsecondary educational institutions and specifically historically black colleges and universities. (10 minutes)

Quote of the Day

“Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness.” -Martin Luther King Jr.