

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 611

To authorize the establishment of a program to provide economic and infrastructure reconstruction assistance to the Republic of Haiti, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 8, 2005

Mr. FOLEY (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. SHAW) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To authorize the establishment of a program to provide economic and infrastructure reconstruction assistance to the Republic of Haiti, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Haiti Economic and
5 Infrastructure Reconstruction Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE RECONSTRUC-**
2 **TION PROGRAM FOR THE REPUBLIC OF**
3 **HAITI.**

4 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The President is au-
5 thorized to establish an economic and infrastructure re-
6 construction program for the Republic of Haiti, to be
7 known as the “Haiti Economic and Infrastructure Recon-
8 struction Program” (in this section referred to as the “Re-
9 construction Program”), under which individuals who are
10 recruited into the Program will be deployed to Haiti to
11 provide assistance to the Government of Haiti related to
12 economic and infrastructure reconstruction and develop-
13 ment.

14 (b) APPOINTMENT.—If the President establishes the
15 Reconstruction Program under subsection (a), the Presi-
16 dent shall appoint an officer or employee of the Bureau
17 for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United States
18 Agency for International Development to serve as the Di-
19 rector of the Reconstruction Program. The Director shall
20 possess expertise with respect to—

21 (1) Haiti; or

22 (2) economic, educational, judicial, law enforce-
23 ment, healthcare, or infrastructure reconstruction
24 and recovery efforts in developing countries.

25 (c) COORDINATION.—The Director shall coordinate
26 with appropriate officials from the Government of Haiti

1 to identify ministries and agencies of the Government of
2 Haiti that require assistance concerning the reconstruc-
3 tion and development in Haiti with respect to—

4 (1) the economy, including a special emphasis
5 on the development of private and public domestic
6 and foreign business investment;

7 (2) the educational system, including a special
8 emphasis on the development of school facilities,
9 teacher training programs, and administration man-
10 agement programs;

11 (3) the judiciary and the rule of law;

12 (4) the healthcare system; and

13 (5) the infrastructure.

14 (d) RECRUITMENT OF INDIVIDUALS FOR PARTICIPA-
15 TION IN THE RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.—

16 (1) REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS.—The Director
17 shall recruit individuals who are citizens of the
18 United States and who possess—

19 (A) at minimum, a four-year college or
20 university degree awarded from an accredited
21 college or university located in the United
22 States; or

23 (B) such skills or expertise as the Director
24 determines to be relevant or appropriate to
25 carry out the Reconstruction Program.

1 (2) HAITIAN-AMERICANS.—To the maximum
2 extent practicable, the Director shall recruit Hai-
3 tian-Americans.

4 (e) USE OF FUNDS.—The Director shall use funds
5 appropriated for the Reconstruction Program to—

6 (1) cover the costs of housing, in such amounts
7 as the Director determines to be appropriate, for in-
8 dividuals who are deployed to Haiti to carry out the
9 Reconstruction Program; and

10 (2) pay such individuals a salary, in such
11 amounts as the Director determines to be appro-
12 priate, taking into consideration the expertise of an
13 individual and the position in the Reconstruction
14 Program held by such individual.

15 (f) LENGTH OF DEPLOYMENT IN HAITI.—

16 (1) ONE YEAR.—Individuals recruited under
17 subsection (d) may be deployed to Haiti under the
18 Reconstruction Program for no longer than one
19 year.

20 (2) EXCEPTION.—If the Director determines
21 that an extended period of deployment for any indi-
22 vidual is appropriate, and such individual consents
23 to such extension, the Director may extend the de-
24 ployment of such individual for no longer than two
25 additional years.

1 (g) REPORTS.—

2 (1) FIRST INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than
3 six months after the date of the enactment of this
4 Act, the President shall submit to Congress a first
5 interim report regarding the Reconstruction Pro-
6 gram.

7 (2) SECOND INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than
8 12 months after the date of the enactment of this
9 Act, the President shall submit to Congress a second
10 interim report regarding the Reconstruction Pro-
11 gram.

12 (3) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
14 President shall submit to Congress a final report re-
15 garding the Reconstruction Program.

16 (4) CONTENTS.—The interim and final reports
17 shall include information relating to the following:

18 (A) A description and explanation of the
19 process of recruitment of individuals for partici-
20 pation in the Reconstruction Program, includ-
21 ing a description and explanation of—

22 (i) the selection criteria used; and

23 (ii) any incentives offered and the cost
24 of such incentives.

1 (B) The number of individuals recruited
2 and the ministry or agency and the locality in
3 which each individual is placed.

4 (C) The potential for expansion of the Re-
5 construction Program.

6 (h) INFRASTRUCTURE DEFINED.—In this section,
7 the term “infrastructure” means a road, highway, bridge,
8 tunnel, airport, mass transportation vehicle or system,
9 intermodal transportation facility, waterway, commercial
10 port, drinking or waste water treatment facility, solid
11 waste disposal facility, pollution control system, and gas,
12 electricity, and oil utilities.

13 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
14 are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry
15 out this section such sums as may be necessary for each
16 of the fiscal years 2006 through 2011. It is the sense of
17 Congress that at least \$3,000,000 should be made avail-
18 able for each of those fiscal years to carry out this section.

19 **SEC. 3. HEALTHCARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR HAITI.**

20 (a) HEALTHCARE PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The
21 President is authorized to establish a healthcare assistance
22 program for Haiti, to be known as the “Haiti Healthcare
23 Assistance Program” (in this section referred to as the
24 “Healthcare Program”), under which grants may be made
25 to qualified nongovernmental organizations to establish

1 programs in Haiti related to the prevention of infectious
2 diseases in Haiti.

3 (b) COORDINATION.—If the President establishes the
4 Healthcare Program under subsection (a), the President
5 shall seek to work with appropriate officials from the Gov-
6 ernment of Haiti and with appropriate individuals from
7 international financial institutions, civil society, non-
8 governmental organizations, and international organiza-
9 tions to work in coordination and cooperation with quali-
10 fied nongovernmental organizations.

11 (c) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—A qualified nongovern-
12 mental organization that receives a grant through this sec-
13 tion shall use the grant to promulgate a comprehensive
14 and integrated strategy to combat and control infectious
15 diseases in Haiti through the establishment of a com-
16 prehensive healthcare infrastructure in Haiti that focuses
17 on education, prevention, care, treatment, support, capac-
18 ity development, and other related activities.

19 (d) SATISFACTION OF CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED
20 A QUALIFIED NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION.—The
21 Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-
22 national Development shall promulgate criteria that shall
23 be satisfied by a nongovernmental organization in order
24 for such organization to be considered a qualified non-
25 governmental organization for purposes of this section.

1 (e) HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE DEFINED.—In
2 this section, the term “healthcare infrastructure” means
3 an inpatient or outpatient hospital, clinic, or medical facil-
4 ity and medical programs, including programs for hiring
5 physicians, nurses, or other medical personnel and pro-
6 grams for acquiring transportation and communications
7 systems for medical purposes.

8 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
9 are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry
10 out this section such sums as may be necessary for each
11 of the fiscal years 2006 through 2011. It is the sense of
12 Congress that at least \$3,000,000 should be made avail-
13 able for each of those fiscal years to carry out this section.

○