

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1749

To measure the progress of recovery and development efforts in Haiti following the earthquake of January 12, 2010, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2013

Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. RICHMOND) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To measure the progress of recovery and development efforts in Haiti following the earthquake of January 12, 2010, 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 “Assessing Progress in
5 Haiti Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) According to the Government of Haiti, more
4 than 316,000 people died as a result of the earth-
5 quake that struck 15 miles southwest of Port-au-
6 Prince on January 12, 2010, including 103 United
7 States citizens and more than 100 United Nations
8 personnel.

9 (2) According to the United Nations and the
10 International Organization for Migration, an esti-
11 mated 3,000,000 people were directly affected by the
12 disaster, and more than 2,100,000 people were dis-
13 placed from their homes.

14 (3) The Post Disaster Needs Assessment con-
15 ducted by the Government of Haiti, the United Na-
16 tions, the World Bank, the Inter-American Develop-
17 ment Bank, and others estimated that damage and
18 economic losses totaled \$7,804,000,000, approxi-
19 mately 120 percent of Haiti's gross domestic prod-
20 uct in 2009.

21 (4) The initial emergency response of the men
22 and women of the United States Government, led by
23 the United States Agency for International Develop-
24 ment (USAID) and the United States Southern
25 Command, as well as of cities, towns, individuals,

1 businesses, and philanthropic organizations across
2 the United States, was swift and resolute.

3 (5) According to the Government of Haiti, nu-
4 merous multilateral agencies such as the United Na-
5 tions, and international NGOs, Haiti faces an ongo-
6 ing food crisis as a result of the earthquake and sub-
7 sequent damage caused by tropical storms and hur-
8 ricanes, as well as long term neglect of the agri-
9 culture sector.

10 (6) According to the International Organization
11 for Migration, approximately 350,000 people remain
12 in spontaneous and organized camps in Haiti, and
13 reports by the General Accountability Office, USAID
14 Inspector General, and civil society organizations in-
15 dicate that the pace of recovery and development has
16 lagged significantly behind the emergency relief
17 phase.

18 (7) Haitian civil society organizations have
19 noted a lack of systematic and widespread consulta-
20 tions with Haitian communities for their input in
21 the recovery and development process.

22 (8) On October 21, 2010, an outbreak of chol-
23 era was detected and according to the Haitian Min-
24 istry of Public Health and Population, as of Feb-
25 ruary 17, 2013, more than 8,000 people had died

1 from cholera and more than 647,500 had been in-
2 fected with the disease.

3 (9) The United States has provided more than
4 \$95,000,000 in aid to combat the cholera epidemic
5 and care for the victims.

6 (10) The United Nations Office of the Special
7 Envoy for Haiti estimates that, including donor
8 pledges and other support, approximately
9 \$6,400,000,000 has been disbursed, with an addi-
10 tional amount of \$3,800,000,000 committed, to as-
11 sist in Haiti's recovery and development.

12 (11) The United States Government has obli-
13 gated approximately \$3,600,000,000 for relief, re-
14 covery and development in Haiti since the earth-
15 quake, of which \$1,300,000,000 had been disbursed
16 as of April 2013.

17 (12) Significant challenges remain in Haiti
18 which will require continued recovery and develop-
19 ment aid from the international community for the
20 foreseeable future.

21 (13) The Haitian Diaspora has also played an
22 essential role in Haiti's reconstruction and the
23 United States Government should take steps to in-
24 crease outreach and encourage participation by Hai-

1 tian Americans in recovery and development activi-
2 ties in Haiti.

3 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than six months after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
6 General of the United States shall submit to Congress a
7 report on the status of post-earthquake recovery and de-
8 velopment efforts in Haiti, including efforts to prevent the
9 spread of cholera and treat persons infected with the dis-
10 ease.

11 (b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection
12 (a) shall include—

13 (1) an assessment of the progress of recovery
14 and development efforts, as embodied in the Post-
15 Earthquake USG Haiti Strategy: Toward Renewal
16 and Economic Opportunity produced by the Depart-
17 ment of State, compared to what remains to be
18 achieved to meet specific goals, including—

19 (A) the amount of funds disbursed through
20 country systems and any significant changes to
21 the Strategy since January 2010, with an ex-
22 planation of such changes;

23 (B) the amounts obligated and expended
24 on United States Government programs and ac-
25 tivities since January 2010 to implement the

1 Strategy, including award data on the use of
2 implementing partners at both prime and
3 subprime levels, and disbursement data from
4 prime and subprime implementing partners;
5 and

6 (C) a description of goals and quantitative
7 and qualitative indicators to evaluate the
8 progress, achievement, or lack of achievement
9 of such goals, within specific timeframes, that
10 comprise the Strategy at the program level;

11 (2) an assessment of the manner in which the
12 Department of State and USAID are working with
13 Haitian ministries and local authorities, including
14 the extent to which the Government of Haiti has
15 been consulted on the establishment of goals and
16 timeframes and on the design and implementation of
17 new programs under the Strategy;

18 (3) an assessment of the extent to which Hai-
19 tian civil society and grassroots organizations have
20 been consulted on the establishment of goals and
21 timeframes and on the design and implementation of
22 new programs under the Strategy;

23 (4) an assessment of efforts to increase the in-
24 volvement of the Haitian private sector in recovery
25 and development activities;

1 (5) an assessment of how consideration for vul-
2 nerable populations, including IDPs, women, chil-
3 dren, orphans, and persons with disabilities, have
4 been incorporated in the design and implementation
5 of new programs and infrastructure;

6 (6) an assessment of how agriculture and infra-
7 structure programs are impacting food security and
8 the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Haiti;

9 (7) an assessment of recovery and development
10 coordination among United States Government
11 agencies and between the United States Government
12 and other donors;

13 (8) a description of the United States Govern-
14 ment's efforts, including diplomatic efforts, to help
15 abate the cholera epidemic in Haiti, in coordination
16 with the Government of Haiti, the United Nations,
17 and other relevant entities;

18 (9) a description of mechanisms for commu-
19 nicating the progress of recovery and development
20 efforts to Haitian citizens; and

21 (10) an assessment of the steps Haiti is taking
22 to strengthen its capacity to receive individuals who
23 are removed, excluded, or deported from the United
24 States.

1 (c) USE OF PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—
2 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, to carry out
3 this section, the Comptroller General of the United States
4 is authorized to use unobligated amounts made available
5 to the Government Accountability Office in an amount not
6 to exceed \$100,000.

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