

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1108

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to direct the United States Executive Director at the Inter-American Development Bank to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to urge the immediate resumption of lending to Haiti.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2003

Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. LEE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. OWENS, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. MEEK of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to direct the United States Executive Director at the Inter-American Development Bank to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to urge the immediate resumption of lending to Haiti.

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 “Access to Capital for
5 Haiti’s Development Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) Haiti is being denied access to funding for
4 development projects from international financial in-
5 stitutions.

6 (2) The Inter-American Development Bank has
7 approved \$145,900,000 in loans to Haiti, including
8 \$50,000,000 for rural road development,
9 \$22,500,000 for reorganization of the health sector,
10 \$54,000,000 for potable water and sanitation and
11 \$19,400,000 million for basic education programs.
12 However, the Inter-American Development Bank has
13 failed to disburse these loans.

14 (3) Haiti could have access to an additional
15 \$317,000,000 in new Inter-American Development
16 Bank loans for development programs.

17 (4) Haiti could also have access to a
18 \$50,000,000 Inter-American Development Bank
19 loan for the investment sector.

20 (5) The Inter-American Development Bank is
21 refusing to make any loans to Haiti until Haiti pays
22 the arrears on its existing debts.

23 (6) Haiti cannot afford to pay the arrears on
24 its existing debts.

25 (7) Haiti has been denied the opportunity to
26 participate in the Enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor

1 Countries (HIPC) Initiative, which provides debt re-
2 lief to heavily indebted poor countries like Haiti.

3 (8) Haiti is one of the most impoverished na-
4 tions in the Western Hemisphere.

5 (9) Haiti desperately needs debt relief and new
6 financing for development purposes.

7 **SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT THAT UNITED STATES URGE THE**
8 **INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK TO**
9 **RESUME LENDING TO HAITI.**

10 The Secretary of the Treasury shall direct the United
11 States Executive Director at the Inter-American Develop-
12 ment Bank to use the voice, vote, and influence of the
13 United States to urge the Inter-American Development
14 Bank to—

15 (1) immediately resume lending to Haiti, and
16 disburse all loans to Haiti that have been approved
17 by the Inter-American Development Bank; and

18 (2) assist Haiti with the payment of its arrears,
19 and consider providing debt relief to Haiti.

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