

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1145

To provide additional appropriations for the fiscal year 2003 for the Peace Corps.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2003

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (for herself, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. WATSON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. WALSH, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. FROST, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. WATT, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To provide additional appropriations for the fiscal year 2003 for the Peace Corps.

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 “Peace Corps HIV/
5 AIDS Training Enhancement Appropriations Act for Fis-
6 cal Year 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) AIDS is so pervasive that it is destroying
4 the very fiber of what constitutes civil society in
5 many regions of the world: individuals, families, and
6 communities; economic and political institutions;
7 military and police forces are all affected.

8 (2) AIDS has claimed 22,000,000 lives—more
9 than all the soldiers killed in major wars of the 20th
10 century—and currently infects more than
11 36,000,000 individuals worldwide.

12 (3) Infant mortality due to AIDS is increasing
13 throughout the world and AIDS-related mortality
14 will eliminate the gains made in child survival over
15 the past 20 years. More than 13,000,000 children
16 worldwide (95 percent of whom live in Africa) have
17 lost either their mothers or both parents to AIDS.

18 (4) Life expectancy in ten countries in Africa
19 has dropped by over 20 years due to AIDS—wiping
20 out the gains of 30 years of development.

21 (5) Teachers and health care workers are the
22 most heavily HIV/AIDS affected sectors of public
23 employment. In many African nations it is estimated
24 that between 25 and 50 percent of all health care
25 workers may be dead from AIDS by 2005.

1 (6) Botswanan President Festus Mogae de-
2 clared that Botswana, once an economically success-
3 ful southern African nation, is now threatened with
4 extinction.

5 (7) Mobilizing resources and human capacity is
6 essential in the prevention of new infections and
7 treatment to those already infected with HIV/AIDS.

8 (8) 7,300 Peace Corps volunteers work in 76
9 countries worldwide including 25 countries in Africa.
10 1,431 of these Peace Corps members are health vol-
11 unteers who serve in Africa, the Eastern Mediterra-
12 nean, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the
13 Pacific.

14 (9) Peace Corps health volunteers work in rural
15 and urban settings in a variety of health activities
16 including teaching HIV/AIDS education and preven-
17 tion methodologies to local people.

18 (10) Peace Corps volunteers work to improve
19 the health of women, men and children, adolescents,
20 and families by promoting health information and by
21 improving the skills of African professionals, local
22 organizations, and local people in HIV/AIDS preven-
23 tion and treatment.

24 (11) The Peace Corps would like to increase its
25 capacity in HIV/AIDS education and prevention ac-

1 tivities—especially in the area of training HIV/AIDS
 2 trainers—by increasing its health volunteer corps.
 3 The Peace Corps believes that with increased capac-
 4 ity, it can significantly impact communities to take
 5 more responsibility for their own health care. But it
 6 cannot do so without further funding.

7 **SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL YEAR**
 8 **2003.**

9 (a) APPROPRIATION.—In addition to such sums as
 10 are otherwise appropriated to carry out the provisions of
 11 the Peace Corps Act for the fiscal year 2003, there are
 12 appropriated \$5,000,000 for the fiscal year 2003 to carry
 13 out the provisions of such Act which shall be available only
 14 for additional health volunteers working with HIV/AIDS
 15 treatment and prevention methodologies, particularly the
 16 training of local HIV/AIDS trainers.

17 (b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any
 18 other provision of law, sums appropriated under sub-
 19 section (a) shall remain available until expended.

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