

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3386

To provide assistance to combat infectious diseases in Haiti and to establish a comprehensive health infrastructure in Haiti, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2003

Ms. LEE (for herself, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. WYNN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. OWENS, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To provide assistance to combat infectious diseases in Haiti and to establish a comprehensive health infrastructure in 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “New Partnership for Haiti Act of 2003”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 101. Findings.
- Sec. 102. Purpose.
- Sec. 103. Definitions.
- Sec. 104. Development of a comprehensive strategy.

TITLE II—UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE FOR HAITI

- Sec. 201. Assistance for health sector development.
- Sec. 202. Assistance for health infrastructure development.
- Sec. 203. Assistance for water and sanitation infrastructure development.
- Sec. 204. Professional exchange for areas in Haiti severely affected by dilapidated physical health infrastructures.

1 TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS**2 SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**

3 Congress finds the following:

4 (1) Haiti is the most impoverished nation in the
5 Western Hemisphere.

6 (2) The United Nations Joint Programme on
7 HIV/AIDS states that Haiti accounts for 90 percent
8 of the HIV/AIDS infections and case rates in the
9 Caribbean.

10 (3) HIV infections and AIDS have approached
11 epidemic proportions in Haiti. More than 300,000
12 infected people have been identified and deaths from
13 HIV/AIDS have left approximately 200,000 children
14 orphaned, while more than 12,000 children in Haiti
15 are living with HIV/AIDS.

16 (4) The infant and maternal mortality rate in
17 Haiti continues to rise and only 1 in every 10,000
18 Haitians has access to a physician.

1 (5) The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuber-
2 culosis and Malaria has approved the control mecha-
3 nisms of the Government of Haiti, which include
4 measures to address transparency and for disburse-
5 ment of grants from the Global Fund.

6 (6) The President has included Haiti in the list
7 of 15 countries that qualify for United States assist-
8 ance to combat HIV/AIDS under the United States
9 Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and
10 Malaria Act of 2003.

11 (7) The people of Haiti have a constitutional
12 and fundamental human right to health and govern-
13 ment has the obligation to fulfill these rights to the
14 level of resources available.

15 (8) The legal minimum daily wage in Haiti is
16 approximately \$.96 but many Haitians work in the
17 informal economy or in subsistence agriculture for
18 \$.40 or less a day.

19 (9) 76 percent of Haiti's children under the age
20 of five are underweight or suffer from wasting or
21 stunting.

22 (10) Only 46 percent of the population has ac-
23 cess to safe water and only 28 percent of the popu-
24 lation to sanitation services.

1 (11) 63 percent of Haitians are undernour-
2 ished. As stated by the United Nations Special
3 Rapporteur on the Right to Food: “Despite the fact
4 that global wealth and resources [are] sufficient to
5 provide food for everyone, some 100,000 people [die]
6 every day of hunger or hunger-related diseases
7 [throughout the world].”.

8 (12) The infant mortality rate in Haiti is ap-
9 proximately 76 deaths for each 1,000 live female
10 births and 81 deaths for each 1,000 live male births.

11 (13) Life expectancy at birth in Haiti is ap-
12 proximately 51 years.

13 (14) Approximately 80 percent of Haiti’s popu-
14 lation lives in abject poverty.

15 (15) Unemployment and underemployment is
16 widespread in Haiti as evidenced by the fact that
17 more than two-thirds of the labor force are without
18 formal jobs.

19 (16)(A) The Office of Technical Assistance
20 within the Bureau of International Affairs of the
21 Department of the Treasury has provided advisers
22 to governments in Central and Eastern Europe and
23 the independent states of the former Soviet Union to
24 assist in the transition from command to market
25 economies.

1 (B) In the typical mission, a Treasury Depart-
2 ment “resident advisor” provides assistance to a
3 senior finance ministry or central bank counterpart
4 in one of several areas: tax policy and administra-
5 tion, government debt issuance and management, fi-
6 nancial institutions policy and regulation, budget
7 policy and management, and the prevention, detec-
8 tion, and prosecution of financial crimes. These resi-
9 dent advisers are supported by short-term experts
10 and technicians.

11 (17) More recently, the Department of the
12 Treasury has addressed challenges in other parts of
13 the world by assisting the South African Depart-
14 ment of Finance in restructuring its budget office
15 and process, working in the Haitian Finance Min-
16 istry to improve apportionment and budget execu-
17 tion, and helping to resolve the banking crisis in In-
18 donesia.

19 **SEC. 102. PURPOSE.**

20 The purpose of this Act is to strengthen United
21 States leadership and the effectiveness of the United
22 States response to infectious diseases in Haiti and Haiti’s
23 struggling health sector while assisting with the rebuilding
24 of physical infrastructure by—

1 (1) establishing a comprehensive, integrated
2 strategy to develop Haiti's health infrastructure,
3 combat HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases,
4 and improve coordination among relevant Federal
5 departments and agencies and between the United
6 States and the Government of Haiti, nongovern-
7 mental organizations, and other international orga-
8 nizations;

9 (2) providing increased resources for United
10 States efforts, particularly for technical assistance
11 and training, to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis,
12 and malaria in Haiti;

13 (3) encouraging the expansion of the inter-
14 national community to reengage with the Govern-
15 ment of Haiti and expand private sector efforts and
16 public-private sector partnerships to establish a
17 functional health sector in Haiti;

18 (4) assisting and securing a system of basic
19 water, sanitation, and other physical infrastructure;
20 and

21 (5) encouraging a continued exchange of knowl-
22 edge and professionalism between the Government of
23 Haiti and the United States Department of the
24 Treasury through the Department's Office of Tech-
25 nical Assistance within the Bureau of International

1 Affairs, including by providing Department of the
2 Treasury advisers to work to explain such concepts
3 as budgeting and the decision making process, tax
4 policy as a means of financing the annual govern-
5 ment budget, treasury bill markets to replace central
6 bank monetization of deficits, and the banking as a
7 system of intermediation rather than financial ac-
8 counting.

9 **SEC. 103. DEFINITIONS.**

10 In this Act:

11 (1) AIDS.—The term “AIDS” means the ac-
12 quired immune deficiency syndrome.

13 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
14 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
15 mittees” means the Committee on International Re-
16 lations of the House of Representatives and the
17 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

18 (3) HIV.—The term “HIV” means the human
19 immunodeficiency virus, the pathogen that causes
20 AIDS.

21 (4) HIV/AIDS.—The term “HIV/AIDS”
22 means, with respect to an individual, an individual
23 who is infected with HIV or living with AIDS.

1 **SEC. 104. DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE STRAT-**
2 **EGY.**

3 The President shall seek to work with the Govern-
4 ment of Haiti, the international financial community, civil
5 society, and other international organizations to establish
6 a comprehensive and integrated strategy to combat infec-
7 tious diseases in Haiti and to establish a comprehensive
8 health infrastructure in Haiti.

9 **TITLE II—UNITED STATES**
10 **ASSISTANCE FOR HAITI**

11 **SEC. 201. ASSISTANCE FOR HEALTH SECTOR DEVELOP-**
12 **MENT.**

13 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
14 United States—

15 (1) to assist in empowering the people of Haiti,
16 particularly, women, young people and children, so-
17 cially, economically, and intellectually to seek health
18 as a human right and to prevent the transmission
19 and contraction of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria,
20 and other infectious and endemic diseases; and

21 (2) to ensure that affordable effective health
22 technologies, preventatives, and curatives are widely
23 available to the people of Haiti.

24 (b) ASSISTANCE.—

25 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting
26 through the Administrator of the United States

1 Agency for International Development, the Director
2 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
3 and the heads of other appropriate Federal depart-
4 ments and agencies, is authorized to provide assist-
5 ance, on such terms and conditions as the President
6 may determine, to facilitate the development of the
7 health sector of Haiti.

8 (2) ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—Assistance pro-
9 vided under paragraph (1) shall, to the maximum
10 extent practicable, be used to carry out the following
11 activities:

12 (A) Develop and expand the health sector
13 in Haiti by expanding the current health infra-
14 structure, targeting resources toward sanitation
15 and water improvements, and developing best
16 practices to fight serious health conditions in
17 the country, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis,
18 and malaria.

19 (B) Education, prevention, care, treat-
20 ment, support, capacity development, and other
21 activities relating to the prevention, treatment,
22 and control of infectious diseases.

23 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
25 appropriated to carry out this section such sums as

1 may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2004
2 and 2005.

3 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-
4 suant to the authorization of appropriations under
5 paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available
6 until expended.

7 **SEC. 202. ASSISTANCE FOR HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DE-**
8 **VELOPMENT.**

9 (a) ASSISTANCE.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting
11 through the Secretary of State and the United
12 States Army Corps of Engineers, is authorized to
13 provide assistance, on such terms and conditions as
14 the President may determine, to facilitate the devel-
15 opment of the basic sanitation and transportation
16 infrastructure of Haiti.

17 (2) ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—Assistance pro-
18 vided under paragraph (1) shall, to the maximum
19 extent practicable, be used to carry out the following
20 activities:

21 (A) Expand and further develop transpor-
22 tation and infrastructure projects in Haiti, in-
23 cluding paving of roads and the availability of
24 a health care vehicle or establishment of an
25 emergency transportation plan in townships or

1 villages located more than 30 to 40 miles away
2 from a health clinic.

3 (B) Commission an environmental impact
4 study focused on the cost of development and
5 paving of primary “dirt roads” located up to
6 30–40 miles away from major health clinics and
7 provide the basic resources for the development
8 and paving of such roads.

9 (b) REPORT.—The President shall prepare and trans-
10 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report
11 that contains the results of the environmental impact
12 study carried out pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(B), includ-
13 ing a cost analysis of carrying out the activities described
14 in such subsection.

15 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
17 appropriated to carry out this section such sums as
18 may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2004
19 and 2005.

20 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-
21 suant to the authorization of appropriations under
22 paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available
23 until expended.

1 **SEC. 203. ASSISTANCE FOR WATER AND SANITATION INFRA-**
2 **STRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.**

3 (a) ASSISTANCE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting
5 through the Secretary of State and the United
6 States Army Corps of Engineers, is authorized to
7 provide assistance, on such terms and conditions as
8 the President may determine, to facilitate the devel-
9 opment of the water and sanitation infrastructure of
10 Haiti.

11 (2) ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—Assistance pro-
12 vided under paragraph (1) shall, to the maximum
13 extent practicable, be used to carry out the following
14 activities:

15 (A) Expand and further develop water and
16 sanitation infrastructure projects in Haiti, in-
17 cluding assistance for development of sanitation
18 and trash removal services in urban and rural
19 areas of Haiti, development of sewage systems
20 in areas with populations of at least 100,000
21 people, assistance and educational resources to
22 improve water quality and delivery, and imple-
23 mentation of community water reserves to be
24 maintained by public-private partnerships.

25 (B) Commission an environmental impact
26 study focused on the effects of the deteriorating

1 water and sanitation conditions in Haiti and
2 provide the necessary resources for the improve-
3 ment of such conditions.

4 (b) REPORT.—The President shall prepare and trans-
5 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report
6 that contains the results of the environmental impact
7 study carried out pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(B), includ-
8 ing a cost analysis of carrying out the activities described
9 in such subsection and subparagraphs (C) and (D) of sub-
10 section (a)(2).

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
13 appropriated to carry out this section such sums as
14 may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2004
15 and 2005.

16 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-
17 suant to the authorization of appropriations under
18 paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available
19 until expended.

20 **SEC. 204. PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE FOR AREAS IN HAITI**
21 **SEVERELY AFFECTED BY DILAPIDATED**
22 **PHYSICAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURES.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish a
24 program to demonstrate the feasibility of facilitating the
25 service of United States health care professionals and en-

1 gineers in Haiti and its localities severely affected by di-
2 lapidated physical and health infrastructure, including but
3 not limited to development of health clinics and health
4 care, roads and sanitation development, and reconstruc-
5 tion of public facilities such as schools, hospitals, and clin-
6 ics.

7 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Participants in the program
8 shall provide basic services through training and participa-
9 tion, enter into partnerships with nongovernmental orga-
10 nizations and the United States Army Corp of Engineers,
11 facilitate on-the-job training for residents of the area, and
12 serve for a period of up to 3 years.

13 (c) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—Candidates shall
14 be residents of the Unites States who are trained profes-
15 sional in their respective field who meets licensure require-
16 ments necessary to be such a professional, including but
17 not limited to physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners,
18 pharmacists, and other types of health care professionals,
19 engineers, architects, and any other individual determined
20 to be appropriate by the President.

21 (d) RECRUITMENT.—The President shall ensure that
22 information on the program is widely distributed, includ-
23 ing the distribution of information to schools and univer-
24 sities where professionals attain certification, hospitals,
25 clinics, nongovernmental organizations working in the

1 areas of international health and development, and any
2 other location the President deems fit.

3 (e) COORDINATION.—Placement of participants in
4 the program shall be coordinated with the United States
5 Agency for International Development in countries in
6 which the Agency is conducting such programs. Overall
7 placement of participants in the program shall be made
8 by the President or his designee.

9 (f) INCENTIVES.—The President may offer such in-
10 centives as the President determines to be necessary to
11 encourage individuals to participate in the program, such
12 as partial payment of principal, interest, and related ex-
13 penses on government and commercial loans for edu-
14 cational expenses relating to professional training in their
15 respective fields, and where possible, deferment of repay-
16 ments on such loans, the provision of retirement benefits
17 that would otherwise jeopardize participation in the pro-
18 gram, and other incentives.

19 (g) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
20 date of enactment of the Act, the President shall transmit
21 to the appropriate congressional committees a report on
22 steps taken to establish the program, including—

23 (1) the process of recruitment, including the
24 venues for recruitment, the number of candidates re-

1 cruited, the incentives offered, if any, and the cost
2 of those incentives;

3 (2) the process, including the criteria used, for
4 the selection of participants;

5 (3) the number of participants placed, the local-
6 ity in which they were placed, and why those profes-
7 sionals were selected for that particular region of
8 Haiti; and

9 (4) the potential for expansion of the program.

10 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
12 appropriated to carry out this section such sums as
13 may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2004
14 and 2005.

15 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-
16 suant to the authorization of appropriations under
17 paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available
18 until expended.

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