

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1527

To remove all embargoes on food, medicine, and medical supplies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 6, 2005

Mr. PAUL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on International Relations

A BILL

To remove all embargoes on food, medicine, and medical
supplies.

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 “Humanitarian Food
5 and Medicine Export Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

8 (1) laws or regulations prohibiting the export of
9 food, medicine, or medical supplies to any foreign
10 country have a disproportionately negative effect on
11 the most vulnerable citizens of that country;

1 (2) laws or regulations prohibiting American
2 manufacturers or farmers from exporting their prod-
3 ucts represent an unfair restriction on their ability
4 to engage in voluntary economic activity;

5 (3) embargoes of food, medicine, or medical
6 supplies interrupt the discourse between nations and
7 thus promote further enmity and militarism; and

8 (4) embargoes of food, medicine, or medical
9 supplies allow affected foreign leaders to scapegoat
10 the United States for the failures of their domestic
11 policy.

12 **SEC. 3. REMOVAL OF EMBARGOES ON FOOD, MEDICINE, OR**
13 **MEDICAL SUPPLIES.**

14 Upon the enactment of this Act, any prohibition on
15 private donations or other exports from the United States
16 to any other country of food, medicine, or medical supplies
17 shall cease to be effective, and private donations and other
18 exports from the United States to any other country of
19 food, medicine, or medical supplies, that are intended to
20 meet basic human needs, may not be prohibited.

21 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

22 In this Act:

23 (1) **FOOD.**—The term “food” means any raw,
24 cooked, processed, or prepared edible substance, ice,

1 or beverage, or ingredient used or intended to be
2 used for human consumption.

3 (2) MEDICINE.—The term “medicine” has the
4 meaning given the term “drug” in section 201 of the
5 Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C.
6 321).

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