

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 360

Expressing support for the sixth IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment, and Prevention and the sense of the House of Representatives that continued commitment by the United States to HIV/AIDS research, prevention, and treatment programs is crucial to protecting global health.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the sixth IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment, and Prevention and the sense of the House of Representatives that continued commitment by the United States to HIV/AIDS research, prevention, and treatment programs is crucial to protecting global health.

Whereas there are currently 33,400,000 people living with HIV/AIDS worldwide and more than 25,000,000 have died of AIDS since the first cases were reported in 1981;

Whereas in the United States, approximately 1,100,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS and someone is newly infected with HIV every 9.5 minutes;

Whereas one in five individuals living with HIV is unaware of their infection, and significant disparities persist across different communities and populations with regard to incidence, access to treatment, and health outcomes;

Whereas the United States is heavily engaged in both international and domestic efforts to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic, including the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), and Malaria, the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA) Program, and AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH);

Whereas the biennial IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment, and Prevention is the world's largest open scientific conference on HIV/AIDS, attracting about 5,000 delegates from around the world;

Whereas together with the International AIDS Conference, which will next be held in Washington, DC, from July 22, 2012, through July 27, 2012, it provides the world's leading scientists, clinicians, policymakers, and community leaders with a unique opportunity to examine the latest developments in HIV research and how scientific advances can practically guide the national and global response to HIV/AIDS;

Whereas IAS 2011 takes place from July 17, 2011, through July 20, 2011, in Rome, Italy, organized by the Inter-

national AIDS Society in partnership with the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), the leading technical and scientific body of the Italian National Health Service;

Whereas this year's conference is of particular importance given the first documented case of a patient being cured of HIV infection and global resurgence of tuberculosis (TB), including multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB);

Whereas known as the "Berlin Patient", Timothy Ray Brown's remarkable story appeared in the December 8, 2010, article entitled, "Evidence for the cure of HIV infection by CCR5 Δ 32/ Δ 32 stem cell transplantation", in the scientific journal *Blood*;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), TB is the leading cause of death among persons with HIV worldwide and XDR-TB is resistant to the most powerful first-line and second-line drugs;

Whereas the improper treatment of TB in HIV-infected individuals perpetuates the spread of this infectious disease as well as bolsters drug resistance, which poses a tremendous threat to public health in the United States and abroad;

Whereas improved efforts to prevent and treat TB among people living with HIV, including the development of new, transformational antibiotic drugs, can save millions of lives;

Whereas several organizations, including small business biotechnology companies, developing therapeutic vaccines

and other immune-based therapies are presenting updates on their clinical research at IAS 2011;

Whereas the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA) and Health People, the first community-based organization for women infected with HIV in the United States, are hosting the NAPWA “Treatment Horizons: Pathways to a Functional Cure” satellite symposium, which is officially affiliated with IAS 2011; and

Whereas therapeutic vaccine candidates and immune-based therapies such as those being presented at IAS 2011 may lead to a “functional cure” for HIV/AIDS: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the sixth IAS Conference on HIV
3 Pathogenesis, Treatment, and Prevention;

4 (2) recognizes that continued commitment by
5 the United States to HIV/AIDS research, preven-
6 tion, and treatment programs is crucial to protecting
7 global health;

8 (3) seeks to prevent the transmission of HIV,
9 as well as tuberculosis (TB), multidrug-resistant tu-
10 berculosis (MDR–TB), and extensively drug-resist-
11 ant tuberculosis (XDR–TB), and improve health
12 outcomes in people living with HIV/AIDS;

13 (4) commits to helping support a strong global
14 response to HIV/AIDS, protect the rights of those
15 infected, and increase access to testing, treatment,
16 and care;

1 (5) encourages the ongoing development of in-
2 novative therapies and advances in clinical treatment
3 for HIV/AIDS, especially by small business bio-
4 technology firms, and new, transformational anti-
5 biotic drugs to treat infectious diseases such as TB,
6 MDR-TB, and XDR-TB; and

7 (6) urges scientists, health care providers, pol-
8 icymakers, community leaders, and all individuals
9 committed to ending the HIV/AIDS pandemic to at-
10 tend the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS
11 2012).

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