

of us. It has an impact on all of us. It is throughout the world. If we have these kinds of dangerous, infectious diseases throughout the world, we need to go after them.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my concern about the HIV/AIDS global pandemic. While this disease devastates the citizens of Sub-Saharan Africa, we also need to direct our attention to the rising numbers of HIV/AIDS cases in the U.S. Today, Mr. Speaker, in addition to accounting for more than half of the cumulative HIV/AIDS cases, people of color also represent two thirds of new HIV/AIDS cases reported in this country.

In the U.S., two lives are lost every hour in the war against HIV/AIDS. Twenty years ago today, the CDC reported 5 cases of AIDS. However, as of June 2000, there were seven hundred fifty three thousand nine hundred and seven reported cases of AIDS in the U.S. Of these reported cases, AIDS has claimed the lives of four hundred and thirty-eight thousand nine hundred and seventy-five American citizens. World-Wide the figure is twenty-two million.

The exponential growth in deaths, clearly indicate that the time for action is now. Although technology, medicine, and research have increased the life span of HIV positive victims, I am concerned about the staggering number of new AIDS cases in the US. In the last decade, the proportion of all AIDS cases reported among adult and adolescent women more than tripled, from 7 percent in 1985 to 23 percent in 1999, with the most dramatic increase occurring among women of color. Among 15–24-year-olds, AIDS is the 7th leading cause of death. These figures highlight the gravity of the crisis related to HIV/AIDS and its impact on our country.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a crucial time in this war against HIV/AIDS. Tragically, this disease debilitates everyone it infects. The most troubling fact is that there are few of us who have been unaffected in some way by this disease. Today as we approach the 20th anniversary of HIV/AIDS in the US, I would like to alert my fellow Americans of the persistent nature of this disease. Unfortunately, it has become a familiar part of America's culture. I believe we must reassess our efforts and recommit ourselves to fighting this illness. We must work collectively to promote education, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Finally, I ask each of us to stand together to remember the victims who have succumbed to this disease, and those individuals who wage valiant and courageous battles to overcome their affliction.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, today marks the twentieth anniversary of the first reported HIV/AIDS cases in the United States. On June 5, 1981 Federal researchers reported a baffling new disease that, over the next 20 years, would claim more than 20 million lives worldwide, including nearly 11,000 in Chicago and 40,000 in Illinois. The last 20 years have taught this country many hard lessons, some of which we continue to fail to grasp.

The first lesson we learned was that HIV/AIDS disproportionately impacts minority communities and women. HIV/AIDS has become the leading cause of death for African-American men ages 25–44. Gay black men are contracting HIV/AIDS at rates comparable to

those seen in sub-Saharan Africa. A recent CDC study reported that 30 percent of gay black men between ages 23 and 29 were HIV-positive. Among HIV-positive women in Illinois, more than 80 percent are non-white—a statistic that could not more starkly demonstrate the disproportionate havoc that HIV/AIDS is wreaking in communities of color.

While I commend the administration for its focus on HIV/AIDS in Africa, more must be done to treat and prevent HIV/AIDS in minority communities in this country. The President's budget takes a step backwards in the fight against HIV/AIDS by freezing the Ryan White AIDS program funding. This is the first time Ryan White funding has not been increased since the programs inception.

The second lesson we learned from the is that HIV/AIDS knows no national boundaries. Sub-Saharan Africa is being ravaged by HIV/AIDS. More than 25 million Africans are now living with HIV and last year alone, 2.4 million Africans died from the disease. We must assist Africa in its fight against HIV/AIDS or we will reap what we sow.

The third lesson HIV/AIDS taught us is that HIV/AIDS is that no group is protected. During the early stages of the HIV/AIDS epidemic many naively believed that HIV/AIDS was a "gay man's disease." This mistake led to a false sense of security among many who were actually engaging in risky behaviors such as IV drug use and unprotected sex. Unfortunately, many were infected before they realized they were at risk. We must not make this same mistake again. Any increased incidence of HIV/AIDS amongst a segment of the population is unacceptable.

Finally, the fourth lesson HIV/AIDS has taught us is that our discomfort with addressing taboo issues can result in the loss of many lives. It is clear that HIV/AIDS is transmitted through unprotected sex and IV drug use. However, due to this country's inability to address many of these sensitive issues, preventive efforts have suffered. We must openly address risk factors of HIV/AIDS. To let our personal discomfort with these subjects stymie prevention and education is unacceptable.

We hold the keys to our fate based on these lessons of the past. If we learn from these lessons, we can defeat HIV/AIDS. But, if we fail to heed our mistakes, we will ultimately suffer more death and destruction over the next twenty years. The future is ours to shape.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today is a very sad day as we remember what it was like before that time twenty years ago when our friends and neighbors, acquaintances and co-workers began to fall gravely ill in what should have been the prime of their lives. It is hard to remember that time before we had parades, rallies, walks and forums specifically devoted to raising desperately needed awareness and money to pay for potential remedies to battle this global pandemic. In the early days it seemed that we fought fear, discrimination, rumors and gossip almost as much or more than the virus itself. Today, while we are still fighting those battles, there have been great strides in the efforts to control this insidious illness. Nevertheless, this is no time for backslapping as the strides that were made are falling victim to the misguided belief—particularly among young people—that HIV/AIDS is

no longer a serious threat. Moreover, while those strides were real, the medical miracles that were discovered were not available to everyone. The high cost of drugs and the lack of availability of adequate quality healthcare remain significant barriers to real progress.

As we look back over these twenty years we see an all too real killing field of lives lost across the globe. An estimated 21.8 million people have died as a result of this virus. Currently, 36.1 million people are living with HIV/AIDS; almost half of those diagnosed are women, and over 1.6 million are children. I applaud the recent efforts of major pharmaceutical companies through the "Accelerating Access" and "Secure The Future" initiatives that offer hope to African patients in nine countries both in terms of access to new medications at realistic costs and the development of an infrastructure system that can deliver care. I am also encouraged to see and hear the commitment of this Administration to the cause of fighting HIV/AIDS in Africa.

In the United States the casualty list from HIV/AIDS is smaller yet no less significant. According to the latest study released by the CDC, almost 754,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS in the US: 438,795 people have died from HIV/AIDS over the past twenty years. HIV/AIDS has become the leading cause of death for African Americans between the ages of 25 and 44. African Americans are 10 times more likely than whites to be diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and also 10 times more likely to die from it.

New York State and New York City still have the largest number of HIV/AIDS in the country and, my congressional district has the highest incidence of new HIV/AIDS cases of any area in New York City. For example, Brownsville has more people living with HIV/AIDS than 12 states. It has the second highest number of blacks living with HIV/AIDS in all of New York City. In addition, East New York has the third highest population of women living with HIV/AIDS. As much as we have done to combat this virus, both in the US and abroad, we must do more. That is why I am pleased that local community based organizations like New World Creations Resource Center, Inc. are sponsoring a rally and march, "the AIDS walk for the Caribbean" on July 1 to highlight the continuing HIV/AIDS crisis in African-American and Caribbean-American communities in New York.

I hope that in five years when we mark the next milestone in the history of this dreaded disease, we have something positive to report. Until that time, I urge my colleagues to join me in redoubling our efforts to promote prevention, education and treatment for HIV/AIDS. This is a battle that we must continue for the future of our nation and for the world at large.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SHERMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the

balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Mr. POMBO (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. PELOSI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. EHLERS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KIRK, for 5 minutes, June 7.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, June 6.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, June 6.

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, June 7.

Mr. EHLERS, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 581. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

H.R. 1836. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 104 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on June 1, 2001 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 581. To authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on June 4, 2001 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 1836. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 104 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 6, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2240. A letter from the the Mayor of the District of Columbia, transmitting the District of Columbia Fiscal Year 2002 Budget Request Act, pursuant to Public Law 105-33 section 11701(a)(1) (111 Stat. 780); (H. Doc. No. 107-81); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

2241. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a request for FY 2001 supplemental appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Defense (including the Army Corps of Engineers), Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, the Interior, Transportation, the Treasury, and Veterans Affairs; International Assistance Programs; and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; (H. Doc. No. 107-80); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

2242. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule—Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)/TRICARE; Partial Implementation of Pharmacy Benefits Program; Implementation of National Defense Authorization Act Medical Benefits for Fiscal Year 2001 (RIN: 0720-AA62) May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2243. A letter from the General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Screening and Eviction for Drug Abuse and Other Criminal Activity [Docket No. FR-4495-F-02] (RIN: 2501-AC63) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2244. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report involving U.S. exports to Taiwan, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2245. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Electronic Recordkeeping by Investment Companies and Investment Advisers [Release Nos. IC-24991 and IA-1945; File No. S7-06-01] (RIN: 3235-AI05) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2246. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Electronic Recordkeeping by Public Utility Holding Companies [Release No. 35-27404; File No. S7-07-01] (RIN: 3235-AI12) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2247. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicaid Program; Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities Providing Inpa-

tient Psychiatric Services to Individuals Under Age 21 [HCFA-2065-IFC2] (RIN: 0938-AJ96) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2248. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Protection of Human Research Subjects: Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 0925-AA14) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2249. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval of Section 112(I) Authority for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions and Risk Management Plans; Delaware; Approval of Accidental Release Prevention Program [DE001-1000; FRL-6988-3] received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2250. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; Post-1996 Rate of Progress Plan [RI-022b; A-1-FRL-6990-6] received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2251. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Maryland: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [FRL-6938-8] received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2252. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Rules and Regulations Under the Fur Products Labeling Act—received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2253. A letter from the Director, Lieutenant General, USAF, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the listing of all outstanding Letters of Offer to sell any major defense equipment for \$1 million or more; the listing of all Letters of Offer that were accepted, as of March 31, 2001, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

2254. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed request for the sale of defense articles or defense services sold commercially to Brazil [Transmittal No. DTC 055-01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

2255. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Japan [Transmittal No. DTC 045-01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2256. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Switzerland [Transmittal No. DTC 041-01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2257. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada [Transmittal No. DTC 042-01], pursuant to 22