

I am pleased that Jhpiego and groups like it from across the globe are coming together for this week's AIDS 2012 conference in Washington, DC. This conference is the largest gathering of professionals working in the field of HIV in the world and will bring together more than 20,000 people from more than 120 countries all working together to create a blueprint for combating HIV/AIDS. I can only imagine the exciting new synergies that will develop when so many innovative, committed individuals are in the same room.

Among the presenters are luminaries from the public, private, and multilateral sectors such as President Bill Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, and former U.S. First Lady Laura Bush, Her Highness Mette-Marit, Crown Princess of Norway, World Bank President Jim Yong Kim, UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidib, Sir Elton John, Whoopi Goldberg, and Bill Gates.

This is the first time the United States has hosted the conference in two decades, and I believe it is the right moment for us to be showcasing our strong bipartisan effort to bring the AIDS epidemic to an end.

The United States has long been a leader in the global fight against HIV/AIDS. As chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on International Development Assistance, I am proud to note that from 2004 to 2010 the United States spent more than \$26 billion on bilateral funding to fight AIDS. From my experience leading this subcommittee, I know that dedicated government experts from an array of U.S. agencies are involved in the fight, as are thousands of nonprofits and community organizations.

Yet despite the progress that the numbers and statistics tell us, the story on the ground is still heartbreaking, and now is not the time to rest on our laurels. International anti-AIDS funding has not increased significantly since 2008. In places like the Congo, for example, doctors are only able to supply antiretroviral drugs to 15 percent of the people who need them. Globally, just 8 million of the 15 million treatment-eligible patients in AIDS-ravaged poor regions of the world are getting antiretroviral drugs.

We must do better. We must do better to improve the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS, and we must do better to save the lives of their loved ones.

Some experts believe that "fatigue and forgetting" are two of the reasons we have not reached more people. Though we have been working on treating this disease for decades, we still have an overwhelming number of infections to treat.

But the good news is that scientists now believe we have the tools to make serious progress in the fight against AIDS. Scientific advances over the last year have been remarkable, and we can't afford to abandon the fight and to lose momentum now.

In a recent Washington Post article, Michel Sidibe, Executive Director of UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS, said, "The previous generation fought for treatment, our generation must fight for a cure."

I am proud that in just the last year, the National Institutes of Health has increased spending on cure-related research by \$56 million. This is a step in the right direction, and I want to see us do more. I stand with the entire HIV/AIDS medical community in renewing the call to prevent, treat, and cure HIV/AIDS. Let's use the opportunity of this historic gathering to renew our call to work on creating an AIDS-free generation.

2012 OLYMPICS GAMES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, tomorrow evening, hundreds of athletes from across the world will gather in London for the opening ceremonies of the 2012 Summer Olympic games.

Among those marching in the Parade of Nations will be 20 athletes from Illinois.

Making his Olympic debut in the 100-meter butterfly is Tyler McGill, a native of Champaign. After turning in the second-fastest time in the world this year at the U.S. Olympic trials, Tyler will be swimming for a spot at the top of the podium in London.

Lake Forest native and Northwestern Wildcat Matt Grevers is already an Olympic Gold-medalist as a member of the two winning relay teams in Beijing. This year, he'll be swimming for individual Gold—and maybe a world record—in the 100-meter backstroke.

As the son of an All-American, swimming is in Conor Dwyer's blood. After achieving personal bests in every event in which he competed at the trials, the Winnetka native will compete in the 400-meter freestyle as well as a relay at his first Olympic games.

Star diver Christina Loukas was born in Riverwoods, where she began swimming and diving at an early age. Although she moved away from Illinois after high school, Christina remained a Cubs fan and returns to Chicago often.

Chatham's Kelci Bryant will join Christina on the women's diving team as she competes in the 3-meter synchronized diving event. Already a two-time NCAA champion, this will also be Kelci's second Olympics.

Algonquin runner Evan Jager won four Illinois State titles in cross-country and track, but he will be competing in a relatively new sport for him—the steeplechase—at this year's Olympics. He qualified for the team after just a few years training for the grueling event.

Chicago's track and field star Wallace Spearmon, Jr., will be looking for vindication this year in the men's 200-meters—a high-pressured sprint that will include many of the fastest runners of all time.

Dawn Harper, who hails from my own hometown of East St. Louis, will be de-

fending her 2008 Olympic Gold Medal in the 100-meter hurdles in London. She won in Beijing in a thrilling upset and with a personal best time, making her the one to beat in this year's games.

Member of the Fighting Illini and All-American Gia Lewis-Smallwood made her first international team in 2011 after competing in the discus for 11 years. She remained in Champaign after graduating, where she not only trains but also volunteers at the nearby YWCA and with Parkland Community College.

Competing in the men's discus event will be Lance Brooks, a New Berlin high school graduate who attended Decatur's Millikin University, where he played for the men's basketball team.

Growing up in Itasca, Sarah Zelenka tried swimming, soccer, volleyball, and basketball. But it wasn't until she went to college that this naturally gifted athlete found her sport: rowing. She has since won gold at the Rowing World Cup and World Championships and will be looking to add an Olympic medal to that collection in London.

Rowing twins Grant and Ross James have competed next to each other their entire lives and share their biggest fan—their mom. After Ross captured the final seat on the eight-man boat going to London, the twins learned that they had fulfilled their lifelong dream of competing next to each other at the Olympics.

At 6 feet 9 inches, Sean Rooney is a natural for the sport of volleyball. He was named Illinois' Player of the Year in 2001 when he led his high school team, Wheaton-Warrenville South, to an Illinois State championship. He competed in his first Olympics in Beijing, where he helped Team USA to a gold medal. He will help them defend that title this year.

Bob Willis grew up in Chicago and learned to sail on beautiful Lake Michigan. After qualifying for the Olympic games, he returned briefly to Chicago before leaving for London, where "the first water [his] Olympic board touched was Lake Michigan water."

Greco-Roman wrestler Ellis Coleman grew up in Chicago's Humboldt Park and joined the wrestling team as a way to stay out of trouble in a rough neighborhood. His signature move is an impressive leap called the Flying Squirrel, which he may employ as he wrestles to win Olympic Gold this year in London.

Growing up in Naperville, Candace Parker was a devoted Chicago Bulls fan. So it wasn't surprising when she began to play basketball herself, leading her high school team to multiple Illinois State championships and becoming the first female high school player to dunk a basketball in a sanctioned game. She has been a member of the USA Basketball Women's National Team since 2009 and helped win Gold for the United States at the Beijing Olympics.

Swin Cash will join her on the women's basketball team. Swin was drafted

into the WNBA after leading her college team to an undefeated 39 to 0 season and her second national championship. She now plays for the Chicago Sky.

Born and raised in Springfield, basketball swingman Andre Iguodala will represent the United States on the 2012 Dream Team, or Dream Team Three. His jersey number is now retired at Lanphier High School, where he was both a star student and athlete.

Star defender on the women's soccer team, Amy LePeilbet grew up in Crystal Lake. Her high school coach at Prairie Ridge remembers her not only for her athleticism but for her work ethic and persistence. She will compete as a member of the U.S. women's soccer team in London.

Each of these athletes has arrived in London as a result of years of perseverance and hard work. They have woken up in the dark for early morning practices and endured aching muscles and sore limbs. They have arrived early and stayed late, spending hours at the gym, on the field, or in the pool training for this moment and their Olympic dream.

I congratulate the athletes from Illinois and every athlete representing his or her country at these Olympic games. I look forward to watching them over the coming weeks as they compete for Olympic Gold.

2012 OLYMPIC GAMES

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am honored on the opening day of the 2012 London Olympics to congratulate our U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Teams. Proudly, 16 of our top Olympian athletes hail from Connecticut, including 6 women, who played for our legendary University of Connecticut women's teams and will represent our State and Nation as members of the U.S. women's basketball team.

These athletes will make history on a global stage, representing the United States and sharing personal stories that fuel their drive to win. They have this momentous opportunity and responsibility because they have worked hard, demonstrated unrelenting character and integrity, and believed in the power of athletic excellence to bring our nation and the world together.

Six extraordinary UConn alumni will compete as members of the 2012 U.S. women's basketball team: Sue Bird, Swin Cash, Tina Charles, Asjha Jones, Maya Moore, and Diana Taurasi. All six players brought UConn teams to national championships during their college careers. The head coach of the U.S. Olympic team, Geno Auriemma, has led the University of Connecticut teams through many exciting seasons while serving as a tremendous role model and mentor. Both Asjha Jones and Tina Charles currently live in Uncasville and play for the Connecticut Sun. Although the others may no longer list Connecticut as their formal residence, these players remain a part of our lives.

Charlie Cole, Ken Jurkowski, Nick LaCava, Sara Hendershot, and Sarah Trowbridge will compete in London as members of our U.S. rowing team. Mr. Cole grew up in New Canaan, CT, and attended New Canaan High School and Yale University where he rowed for the heavyweight team. He has received many national and international titles, including most recently winning the pair at the 2012 National Selection Regatta number 1 and finishing fourth in the four at the 2011 World Rowing Championships. He has been named USRowing's 2011 Athlete of the Year.

Mr. Jurkowski was raised in New Fairfield and attended New Fairfield High School and Cornell University, where he walked onto the team his freshman year, competed all 4 years, and graduated with a degree in biological engineering. He has also served as a volunteer assistant coach for the University of Texas women's rowing team. In London, he will compete in the single sculls event an event that he placed 11th in during the 2008 Beijing games.

Mr. LaCava is from Weston, CT, and attended Phillips Exeter Academy and Columbia University. Among other distinctions, he placed fifth in the lightweight eight at the 2011 World Rowing Championships and placed first at the lightweight eight at the 2011 Head of the Charles Regatta. In London, he will compete in the men's lightweight four.

Ms. Hendershot grew up in West Simsbury Connecticut, only starting to row in 2003 as a high school freshman. Already by 2004 and again in 2005, she won the open eight at the USRowing National Championships. She rowed for Princeton University and graduated in 2010. She will compete in the Women's Pair in London with Sarah Zelenka of Illinois.

Ms. Trowbridge was born in Washington, DC, and is a member of the Potomac Boat Club. She was raised in Guilford, CT, and attended Guilford High School. She rowed at University of Michigan on a scholarship. Most recently among her international and national results, she finished ninth in the double sculls at the 2011 World Rowing Championships and won the double sculls at the 2011 National Selection Regatta No. 2. She cites her parents, coaches, teammates, and Olympic hero, Nadia Comaneci, as inspirations. She will compete in the Women's Double Sculls event.

Craig Kinsley and Donn Cabral will represent the United States in track and field. Hailing from Fairfield, CT, Mr. Kinsley brings his experience at high jump and javelin at Fairfield Preparatory High School and Brown University to the international arena. He won the NCAA title in the javelin event in 2010 and in the same year was named Academic All-American and Northeast Region Field Athlete of the Year by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. At Brown University, he studied geology and economics.

Mr. Cabral was born and raised in Glastonbury, CT. He attended Prince-

ton University, where he received All-American titles in track and field and cross country, and in 2012 won the NCAA title and set the U.S. collegiate record in the steeplechase event. He will compete in the Men's 3000M steeplechase this Olympic games.

Rob Crane will hit the water in sailing. Born in Stamford and raised in Darien, he went on to attend the Holderness School and Hobart College. He continues a family legacy of sailing, joining the ranks of his mother and father, who won world and North American championships, respectively. In 2011, he finished 14th in the International Sailing Association and Federal's Sailing World Championships. This Olympics, he will participate in the men's singlehanded laser dinghy sailing event.

In addition to the successes of these 10 accomplished and inspiring athletes, I wish to recognize all around the world poised to participate in the USA Paralympics. Guided by the U.S. Olympic Committee's Paralympic Military, Veteran, and Community Program, State and local communities have developed important programs to enable individuals with physical or visual disabilities to participate and compete in sports. The growing prevalence of community level sports clubs, such as the paralympic sports clubs, offers disabled Americans the opportunity to come together as a community, share their love of sports, and rally around each other.

Our American competitors are inspirational to athletes and nonathletes of all generations. Athletics and sportsmanship connect us, reaching the core of our humanity. They represent our hopes, dreams, and aspirations. They serve as national and international diplomats, working together as a team to best represent our country. Along with my Senate colleagues, I wish our athletes from Connecticut and around the Nation the best of luck and thank them for their incredible public service as leaders during these Olympic games.

EXTENSION OF THE FISA AMENDMENTS ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Last week, the Judiciary Committee considered S.3276, a bill reauthorizing the surveillance provisions of the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, which is set to expire at the end of this year. The Director of National Intelligence and the Attorney General have both stated that reauthorization of these important national security authorities is the "top legislative priority of the Intelligence Community."

After the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence reported its reauthorization bill, I asked for a sequential referral. Senator GRASSLEY joined me in that request. It was for a limited time and had we not completed our markup last Thursday, time might well have expired for this committee to act on it. I was surprised last week and since to be criticized for seeking to improve the