

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 119

Combating the Global AIDS pandemic.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 29, 2001

Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. GRAHAM, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Combating the Global AIDS pandemic.

Whereas the international AIDS pandemic is of grave proportions and is growing;

Whereas the epicenter of the AIDS pandemic is sub-Saharan Africa, and incidences of contraction of HIV, AIDS, and related diseases are growing in the Caribbean basin, Russia, China, Southeast Asia, and India at alarming rates;

Whereas AIDS pandemic-related statistics are especially staggering in sub-Saharan Africa—

(1) the infection rate is 8 times higher than the rest of the world;

(2) in the region, over 17,000,000 people have already lost their lives to AIDS or AIDS-related illnesses, with another 24,000,000 living with AIDS, according to the World Health Organization and Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS;

(3) in many countries in the region, life expectancy will drop by 50 percent over the next decade;

(4) more than 12,000,000 African children have lost 1 or both parents to AIDS or AIDS-related illnesses, and that number will grow to more than 35,000,000 by 2010;

(5) if current trends continue, 50 percent or more of all 15-year olds in the worst affected countries, such as Zambia, South Africa, and Botswana, will die of AIDS or AIDS-related illnesses; and

(6) one-quarter of the sub-Saharan African population could die of AIDS or AIDS-related illnesses by 2020, according to the Central Intelligence Agency;

Whereas confronting the AIDS pandemic is a moral imperative of the United States and other leading nations of the world;

Whereas confronting the AIDS pandemic is in the national interest of the United States, given that 42 percent of United States exports go to the developing world, where the incidence of AIDS is growing most rapidly;

Whereas in today's globalized environment, goods, services, people—and disease—are moving at the fastest pace in world history;

Whereas we cannot insulate our citizenry from the global AIDS pandemic and related opportunistic disease, and we must provide leadership if we are to reverse global infection rates;

Whereas the AIDS pandemic is perhaps the most serious and challenging transnational issue facing the world in the post-Cold War era;

Whereas the AIDS pandemic is decimating local skilled workforces, straining fragile governments, diverting national resources, and undermining states' ability to provide for their national defense or international peace-keeping forces;

Whereas United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, asserts that between \$7,000,000,000 and \$10,000,000,000 is needed annually to address the AIDS pandemic, yet current international assistance efforts total roughly a little more than \$1,000,000,000 per annum;

Whereas the United States has joined the call from the United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, and others in support of a global fund to assist national governments, international organizations, and nongovernmental organizations in the prevention, care, and treatment of AIDS and AIDS-related illnesses; and

Whereas the United Nations Special Session on AIDS, taking place in June 2001, and the Group of Eight Industrialized Nations meeting in July 2001, are key opportunities for more states, governments, international organiza-

tions, the private sector, and civil society to donate assistance to the global fund: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the tragedy of the AIDS pan-
3 demic in human terms, as well as its devastating im-
4 pact on national economies, infrastructures, political
5 systems, and all sectors of society;

6 (2) strongly supports the formation of a Global
7 AIDS and Health Fund;

8 (3) calls for the United States to remain open
9 to providing greater sums of money to the global
10 fund as other donors join in supporting this endeav-
11 or;

12 (4) calls on other nations, international organi-
13 zations, foundations, the private sector, and civil so-
14 ciety to join in providing assistance to the global
15 fund;

16 (5) urges all national leaders in every part of
17 the world to speak candidly to their people about
18 how to avoid contracting or transmitting the HIV
19 virus;

20 (6) calls for the United States to continue to in-
21 vest heavily in AIDS treatment, prevention, and re-
22 search;

23 (7) urges international assistance programs to
24 continue to emphasize science-based best practices

1 and prevention in the context of a comprehensive
2 program of care and treatment;

3 (8) encourages international health care infra-
4 structures to better prepare themselves for the suc-
5 cessful provision of AIDS care and treatment, in-
6 cluding the administration of AIDS drugs;

7 (9) urges the Administration of President
8 George W. Bush to encourage participants at the
9 United Nations General Assembly Special Session on
10 AIDS in June, and the Group of Eight Industri-
11 alized Nations meeting in July, to contribute to the
12 global fund; and

13 (10) calls for United States representatives at
14 the United Nations General Assembly Special Ses-
15 sion on AIDS and Group of Eight Industrialized
16 Nations meeting to emphasize the need to maintain
17 focus on science-based best practices and prevention
18 in the context of a comprehensive program of care
19 and treatment, combating mother-to-child trans-
20 mission of the HIV virus, defeating opportunistic in-
21 fections, and improving infrastructure and basic care
22 services where treatment medicines are available,
23 and seek additional resources to support the millions
24 of AIDS orphans worldwide.

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