

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1067

To facilitate the service of health care professionals in areas of sub-Saharan Africa, and other parts of the world, that are severely affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 14, 2003

Mr. ALEXANDER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To facilitate the service of health care professionals in areas of sub-Saharan Africa, and other parts of the world, that are severely affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

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 “AIDS Corps Act of
5 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. AIDS CORPS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish a
8 pilot program to demonstrate the feasibility of facilitating

1 the service of health care professionals from the United
2 States in those areas of sub-Saharan Africa and other
3 parts of the world that are severely affected by HIV/AIDS,
4 tuberculosis, and malaria.

5 (b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to
6 participate in the pilot program established under sub-
7 section (a), an individual shall—

8 (1) be a citizen of the United States or an alien
9 who is lawfully residing in the United States;

10 (2) be a trained health care professional who
11 meets the educational and licensure requirements
12 necessary to be such a professional (including a phy-
13 sician, nurse, physician assistant, nurse practitioner,
14 pharmacist, or other type of health care profes-
15 sional), or other individual determined to be appro-
16 priate by the President;

17 (3) enter into an agreement with the President
18 to provide services of the type described in sub-
19 section (c) for a period of not less than 2 months
20 and not more than 2 years; and

21 (4) meet such other requirements as the Presi-
22 dent determines appropriate.

23 (c) REQUIRED SERVICES.—A participant in the pro-
24 gram established under this section shall—

1 (1) provide on-the-job training to medical and
2 other personnel in the area in which the participant
3 is serving to strengthen the basic health care system
4 of the affected countries;

5 (2) provide health care educational training for
6 residents of the area in which the participant is
7 serving;

8 (3) provide basic health care services for those
9 infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis,
10 and malaria in the area in which the participant is
11 serving; and

12 (4) carry out other activities determined appro-
13 priate by the President.

14 (d) RECRUITMENT.—The President shall ensure that
15 information on the program established under subsection
16 (a) is widely distributed to the public, including distribu-
17 tion through schools for health professionals, hospitals,
18 clinics, and nongovernmental organizations working in the
19 areas of international health and aid.

20 (e) PLACEMENT OF PARTICIPANTS.—In assigning
21 participants in the program established under subsection
22 (a), the President shall—

23 (1) to the maximum extent practicable, ensure
24 that such participants serve in the poorest areas of

1 affected countries, where health care needs are likely
2 to be the greatest; and

3 (2) consult with relevant officials of affected
4 countries at both the national and local level as well
5 as with local community leaders and organizations.

6 (f) INCENTIVES.—The President may offer such in-
7 centives as the President determines to be necessary to
8 encourage individuals to participate in the program estab-
9 lished under subsection (a), including—

10 (1) partial payment of principal, interest, and
11 related expenses on Government and commercial
12 loans for educational expenses relating to profes-
13 sional health training;

14 (2) where permissible, the deferment of repay-
15 ments on loans described in paragraph (1);

16 (3) ensuring the provision of the retirement
17 benefits of participants if participation in the pro-
18 gram would otherwise jeopardize the receipt of such
19 benefits; and

20 (4) other incentives determined appropriate by
21 the President.

22 (g) COVERAGE OF PARTICIPANTS UNDER THE FED-
23 ERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT.—A participant in the program
24 established under subsection (a) shall be deemed to be an

1 employee of the United States Government for purposes
2 of—

3 (1) chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code,
4 and any other Federal tort liability law;

5 (2) sections 5584 and 5732 of title 5, United
6 States Code; and

7 (3) section 3342 of title 31, United States
8 Code.

9 (h) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
10 date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit
11 to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that
12 describes the steps taken under subsection (a) to establish
13 the program, including—

14 (1) the process of recruitment, including the
15 venues for recruitment, the number of candidates re-
16 cruited, the incentives offered, if any, and the cost
17 of those incentives;

18 (2) the process, including the criteria used, for
19 the selection of participants;

20 (3) the number of participants placed, the coun-
21 tries in which they were placed, and why those coun-
22 tries were selected; and

23 (4) the potential for expansion of the program.

24 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts oth-
2 erwise available for such purpose, there are author-
3 ized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
4 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal
5 years 2004 through 2008.

6 (2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appro-
7 priated under paragraph (1) shall remain available
8 until expended.

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