

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2839

To provide additional appropriations for the fiscal year 2002 for the Peace Corps.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 5, 2001

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (for herself, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. LEACH, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. HALL of Ohio, and Ms. MCCOLLUM) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To provide additional appropriations for the fiscal year 2002 for the Peace Corps.

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 “Peace Corps HIV/
5 AIDS Training Enhancement Appropriations Act for Fis-
6 cal Year 2002”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) AIDS is so pervasive that it is destroying
2 the very fiber of what constitutes civil society in
3 many regions of the world: individuals, families, and
4 communities; economic and political institutions;
5 military and police forces are all affected.

6 (2) AIDS has claimed 22,000,000 lives—more
7 than all the soldiers killed in major wars of the 20th
8 century—and currently infects more than
9 36,000,000 individuals worldwide.

10 (3) Infant mortality due to AIDS is increasing
11 throughout the world and AIDS-related mortality
12 will eliminate the gains made in child survival over
13 the past 20 years. More than 13,000,000 children
14 worldwide (95 percent of whom live in Africa) have
15 lost either their mothers or both parents to AIDS.

16 (4) Life expectancy in ten countries in Africa
17 has dropped by over 20 years due to AIDS—wiping
18 out the gains of 30 years of development.

19 (5) Teachers and health care workers are the
20 most heavily HIV/AIDS affected sectors of public
21 employment. In many African nations it is estimated
22 that between 25 and 50 percent of all health care
23 workers may be dead from AIDS by 2005.

24 (6) Botswanan President Festus Mogae de-
25 clared that Botswana, once an economically success-

1 ful southern African nation, is now threatened with
2 extinction.

3 (7) Mobilizing resources and human capacity is
4 essential in the prevention of new infections and
5 treatment to those already infected with HIV/AIDS.

6 (8) 7,300 Peace Corps volunteers work in 76
7 countries worldwide including 25 countries in Africa.
8 1,431 of these Peace Corps members are health vol-
9 unteers who serve in Africa, the Eastern Mediterra-
10 nean, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the
11 Pacific.

12 (9) Peace Corps health volunteers work in rural
13 and urban settings in a variety of health activities
14 including teaching HIV/AIDS education and preven-
15 tion methodologies to local people.

16 (10) Peace Corps volunteers work to improve
17 the health of women, men and children, adolescents,
18 and families by promoting health information and by
19 improving the skills of African professionals, local
20 organizations, and local people in HIV/AIDS preven-
21 tion and treatment.

22 (11) The Peace Corps would like to increase its
23 capacity in HIV/AIDS education and prevention ac-
24 tivities—especially in the area of training HIV/AIDS
25 trainers—by increasing its health volunteer corps.

1 The Peace Corps believes that with increased capac-
2 ity, it can significantly impact communities to take
3 more responsibility for their own health care. But it
4 cannot do so without further funding.

5 **SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL YEAR**
6 **2002.**

7 In addition to such sums as are otherwise appro-
8 priated to carry out the provisions of the Peace Corps Act
9 for the fiscal year 2002, there are appropriated
10 \$5,000,000 for the fiscal year 2002 to carry out the provi-
11 sions of such Act which shall be available only for addi-
12 tional health volunteers working with HIV/AIDS treat-
13 ment and prevention methodologies, particularly the train-
14 ing of local HIV/AIDS trainers.

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