

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1370

Supporting the goals and ideals of National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. SOTO, Ms. BUSH, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day.

Whereas National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day is a nationwide observance that brings attention to the growing number of people living long and full lives with HIV/AIDS to their health, and to their social needs;

Whereas more than 40 years into the epidemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that in the United States there are more than 1,200,000 people living with HIV/AIDS, and every year approximately 40,000 people acquire HIV/AIDS;

Whereas over half of people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States and dependent areas are individuals who are aged 50 and over;

Whereas globally, there are 5,700,000 people living with HIV/AIDS aged 50 and older;

Whereas in the United States, one in six of every new HIV diagnosis is of an individual aged 50 and over;

Whereas research indicates that older people in the United States are more likely than younger individuals in the United States to be diagnosed with HIV late in the course of their disease, meaning such older people are more likely to be dually diagnosed with HIV and AIDS;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services reports that people living with HIV for many years can exhibit clinical characteristics observed in aging, including multiple chronic diseases or coexisting conditions, the use of multiple medications, changes in physical and cognitive abilities, and increased vulnerability to stressors; and

Whereas September 18 of each year is recognized as National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
3 HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day;

4 (2) encourages Tribal, State, territorial, and
5 local governments, including their public health
6 agencies, geriatric providers and professionals, social
7 service providers, State units on aging, area agencies

1 on aging, and media organizations to recognize and
2 support such a day;

3 (3) supports the right of older people to HIV
4 education, prevention, treatment, and care, and to
5 live without criminalization, discrimination, oppres-
6 sion, and stigma;

7 (4) supports increased services and access to
8 health care and treatment for people living with
9 HIV, particularly older people, who are among the
10 estimated 400,000 people living with HIV/AIDS who
11 are not in care or virally suppressed;

12 (5) supports sound policymaking based on the
13 premise of Treatment as Prevention (TasP) or
14 Undetectable=Untransmittable, or U=U;

15 (6) supports the repeal of HIV laws and poli-
16 cies that are scientifically inaccurate and unfairly
17 criminalize older people living with HIV for behav-
18 iors that are consensual or have no risk of trans-
19 missions;

20 (7) urges age-friendly and accessible health care
21 services, especially access to HIV testing and
22 antiretroviral therapy without regard to age, to bet-
23 ter provide for the early identification of HIV among
24 people of all ages, and to connect those in need of

1 clinically and culturally appropriate care and treat-
2 ment as early as possible;

3 (8) supports the increase of funding for pro-
4 grams that support older people impacted by and liv-
5 ing with HIV/AIDS, including the HIV Health Care
6 Services Program under title XXVI of the Public
7 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300ff–11 et seq.)
8 (commonly referred to as the Ryan White HIV/
9 AIDS program), the Medicaid program under title
10 XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et
11 seq.), the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral
12 Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention Program of the
13 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Hous-
14 ing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS program
15 under the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42
16 U.S.C. 12901 et seq.), and programs that support
17 older people living with HIV/AIDS, including by—

18 (A) educating communities on testing and
19 treatment options for older people living with
20 HIV/AIDS; and

21 (B) helping older people to access
22 preexposure prophylaxis and postexposure pro-
23 phylaxis to prevent acquisition of HIV; and

24 (9) recommends a comprehensive HIV preven-
25 tion and treatment strategy that empowers older

1 people, public health workers, social service pro-
2 viders, geriatric providers and professionals, faith
3 leaders, and other stakeholders to fully engage with
4 their communities and families to improve the qual-
5 ity of life and health for older people living with
6 HIV/AIDS, to—

7 (A) help decrease violence, discrimination,
8 and stigma toward individuals who disclose
9 their sexual orientation or HIV status; and

10 (B) provide them the services and supports
11 they need as they age.

○