

MOTION TO RECOMMIT
OFFERED BY MR. RYAN OF WISCONSIN

Mr. Ryan of Wisconsin moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5501 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendments:

Page 96, line 10, strike “\$4,000,000,000” and insert “such sums as may be necessary”.

Page 97, line 1, strike “\$5,000,000,000” and insert “such sums as may be necessary”.

Page 116, line 8, strike “\$10,000,000,000” and insert “6,000,000,000”.

Page 122, after line 2, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 405. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

3 (1) According to Congressional Budget Office
4 estimates, \$50 billion to carry out the United States
5 Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and
6 Malaria Act of 2003 would not be spent during the
7 five-year authorization period, but instead would
8 take 10 years or until 2018 to spend.

1 (2) Recent funding disbursement trends for the
2 current program suggest that the current funding
3 levels are outpacing the capacity of the countries
4 and nongovernmental organizations to efficiently im-
5 plement the program. Over the 2005-2006 funding
6 period, assistance commitments grew \$1.3 billion
7 from \$4.3 billion to \$5.6 billion, while the actual dis-
8 bursements of funds grew at a much slower rate of
9 \$400 million from \$3.5 billion to \$3.9 billion. As
10 such, the current commitment exceeds disbursement
11 by \$1.7 billion, or 30 percent of the current commit-
12 ment.

13 (3) Reports from recipient countries indicate
14 the absorptive capacity for HIV/AIDS programs has
15 become a constraint on actual expenditure of funds.
16 For instance, a 2005 survey of World Bank Multi-
17 Country AIDS Program (MAP) country directors in
18 Africa found that nearly 40 percent of those coun-
19 tries believed that absorptive capacity “remains lim-
20 ited and is the real issue; new financial resources
21 will exacerbate this problem”.

22 (4) Additionally, a 2007 Center for Global De-
23 velopment report on HIV/AIDS programs in Mo-
24 zambique, Uganda, and Zambia found that overbur-
25 dened government staff at all levels, along with the

1 limited absorptive capacity of sub-grantees, created
2 major bottlenecks for funding disbursement.

3 (5) Advocates of increased HIV/AIDS funding
4 appear to have based their recommendations for
5 such funding at least in part on UNAIDS' estimates
6 of a global price tag for addressing the HIV/AIDS
7 epidemic. Such international estimates are flawed,
8 however, because the primary source for such projec-
9 tions—the UNAIDS' "Resource Needs Model", or
10 RNM—overestimates the resources needed, relies on
11 a higher estimate of people living with HIV/AIDS,
12 and includes support for countries that are also
13 Global Fund donors. Specifically:

14 (A) The UNAIDS report titled "Critical
15 Review of Costing Models to Estimate Resource
16 Needs to Address Global HIV and AIDS"
17 found that "the [RNM] has a number of limita-
18 tions", each of which contributes to an overesti-
19 mate of the resources needed to mount a suc-
20 cessful response.

21 (B) Newer projections such as the 2007
22 "Epidemic Update" lowered the estimated num-
23 ber of people living with HIV/AIDS worldwide
24 from 39.5 million to 33.2 million—a 16 percent
25 reduction—yet UNAIDS has not publicly re-

1 leased a revised lower projection of resource
2 needs.

3 (C) Projections in the RNM report include
4 significant financing for middle-income coun-
5 tries such as China, Russia, and Brazil that are
6 actually Global Fund donors themselves and
7 should not require international assistance.

8 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—In light of the findings
9 contained in subsection (a), which indicate that even cur-
10 rent levels of funding for HIV/AIDS programs cannot be
11 disbursed in an efficient and effective manner, Congress
12 should ensure that the amount of funding authorized by
13 this Act to carry out the United States Leadership
14 Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of
15 2003 is consistent with the demonstrated absorptive ca-
16 pacity to carry out such programs around the world.