



## H.R. 1532 – Comprehensive Tuberculosis Elimination Act of 2007

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 1532 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Gene Green (D-TX) on March 15, 2007. The resolution was ordered reported, as amended, by voice vote from the Committee on Energy and Commerce on September 17, 2008.

H.R. 1532 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 22, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

National Strategy for Combating and Eliminating Tuberculosis: The bill establishes the National Strategy for Combating and Eliminating Tuberculosis. This provision allows the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants for tuberculosis research and for the development of new tools for the elimination of tuberculosis. In addition, it authorizes the Secretary to establish demonstration projects that prevent, control, and eliminate the disease, intensify efforts to detect and treat it, and to educate the public about tuberculosis.

Advisory Council: H.R. 1532 creates an Advisory Council for Elimination of Tuberculosis to provide advice and recommendations regarding the elimination of tuberculosis to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, including coordinating the activities of HHS and other Federal agencies regarding TB, responding rapidly and effectively to emerging issues in TB, and efficiently utilizing the Federal resources involved. The council will be made up of representatives of several Federal Departments and agencies, state and local public health officials, and health professionals.

Federal Tuberculosis Task Force: The bill establishes the Federal Tuberculosis Task Force to provide the Secretary with recommendations for the creation of new tools for the elimination of tuberculosis, including drugs, diagnostics, and vaccines.

Evaluation of Public Health Authorities: Within 180 days of enactment, the Secretary is required to submit a report to Congress that includes an evaluation of the effectiveness of current policies to detain patients with active TB, whether Federal laws should be strengthened to expressly address the movement of individuals with active TB, and to specify legislative recommendations for changes to Federal law.

Quarantine Regulations: The bill requires the Secretary to promulgate interstate and foreign quarantine regulations updates within 240 days of enactment.

Authorization Level: The bill authorizes \$300,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; \$315,000,000 for fiscal year 2010; \$330,750,000 for fiscal year 2011; \$347,287,500 for fiscal year 2012; and \$364,651,900 for fiscal year 2013 to carry out this program.

National Institutes of Health: The bill authorizes the Director of the National Institutes of Health to expand, intensify, and coordinate research and development and related activities toward the goal of eliminating the disease.

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### BACKGROUND

Tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious disease that affects the lungs of infected individuals.



# LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

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Multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), an extensively drug resistant form of tuberculosis (XDR-TB), is a critical challenge to the global control of TB. Drug resistant TB develops when individuals do not complete their required treatment for TB or are not prescribed the proper treatment regimen.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), 13,293 cases of tuberculosis (TB) were reported in the United States in 2007. A disproportionate amount of TB cases in the United States are attributed to foreign born individuals. The increased globalization of the economy has caused an increase in international travel, commerce, and migration, which could lead to a greater risk of tuberculosis in the United States.

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## COST

The Congressional Budget Office has not issued a cost estimate for H.R. 1532.

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## STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Brianne Miller at 6-2302.