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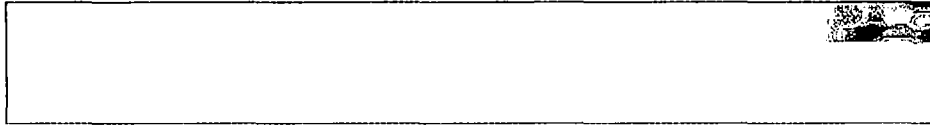
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Index



Oakland's Barbara Lee tackles African AIDS crisis

By Lisa Friedman
WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON -- Seven months ago, when Oakland Rep. Barbara Lee came out with a \$1 billion plan to curb the AIDS crisis in Africa, only a few activists and like-minded Democrats got excited.

Since then, Lee estimates, the epidemic has wiped out 912,000 African people.

Independent of Lee, the fight against the AIDS crisis in Africa has steadily gained momentum since the congresswoman introduced her legislation.

The United Nations Security Council, which has never formally addressed a public health issue, called a special meeting to discuss Africa's No. 1 killer.

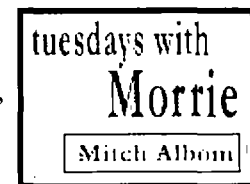
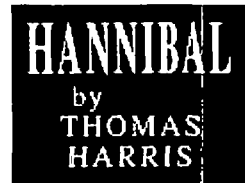
Bill Gates donated \$25 million to the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative. Newsweek did a special report. Bobby Kennedy's youngest child, documentary filmmaker Rory Kennedy, came out with a widely circulated short film. President Clinton vowed to double White House funding for global AIDS treatment and prevention.

And now HIV in Africa is the issue du jour on Capitol Hill.

In the past two weeks alone, California Sen. Barbara Boxer teamed up with Republican Sen. Gordon Smith from Oregon to propose spending \$2 billion, mostly in Africa, for AIDS prevention and treatment.

Iowa Rep. Jim Leach, another Republican, asked Congress to consider creating an AIDS trust fund through the World Bank. His idea was picked up by Democratic Senators John Kerry of Massachusetts and Richard Durbin of Illinois, who days later submitted a nearly identical companion bill.

And last Thursday, North Dakota Sen. Byron Dorgan -- who during the past year has spoken on the Senate floor in favor of the nuclear test ban treaty and family farms but never about AIDS or Africa -- made an impassioned plea to his colleagues to "gather with others in the world and combat this deadly plague."



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"This is a real defining moment," Lee said. "When you have everything coming together at a certain moment, you have to seize it."

If Congress approves any of the proposed bills, it would be among the most wide-reaching global AIDS-prevention legislation ever passed. And it also could be a chance for Lee to create her own congressional legacy -- while still paying homage to her mentor and one-time boss, Ron Dellums.

Some people, however, question whether Lee has the political clout to seize her moment.

Terje Anderson, policy director for the National Association of People with AIDS, said Lee is in danger of being overshadowed by the Senate, where some of the members putting forth legislation aren't even aware Lee has an idea on the table.

But, he said, Lee has come a long way since she first introduced her plan.

"Last fall, everyone was like: 'OK, yeah, we'll sign on. But it's not going to go anywhere,'" Anderson recalled. "But it's a very hot issue right now, and she's certainly got the most specific and detailed plan out there. That gives those ideas some real credibility."

Lee insists she isn't worried that her colleagues will outshine her.

"I am so delighted to see other members of Congress step up to the plate," she said, adding that "it's very lonely sometimes" to advocate on issues that many people still feel uncomfortable discussing.

Originated with Dellums

It was Dellums, the Oakland representative for nearly 30 years before retiring in 1998, who originated Lee's legislation. He coined the term "AIDS Marshall Plan" and traveled the country calling not only for medical assistance to Africa, but for infrastructure, educational and economic aid as well.

About a year after taking office, Lee wrote the legislation to carry on Dellums' idea.

In practice, the bill would establish a new White House agency, called the AIDS Marshall Plan Fund for Africa Corporation, that would establish and carry out treatment, research, prevention and education programs.

The agency ideally would receive \$200 million annually for five years and have the authority to raise money from private groups and foreign governments, for which it would get an additional 25 percent in matching funds from the United States.

An advisory board -- Lee envisions the ranks being filled by high-profile leaders like Nelson Mandela -- would guide the agency.

Moral imperative

Lee calls the African AIDS effort "a moral imperative."

"Imagine 40 million children roaming around the continent of Africa with no mothers and fathers," she said, citing 2030 fatality projections by the United Nations' AIDS Council. "The clock is ticking, and the clock is ticking so fast."

Lee's original supporters included the usual cast of Bay Area Democrats -- like Pelosi and Reps. George Miller, D-Martinez, and Tom Lantos, D-San Mateo -- who have long worked on HIV or humanitarian issues. The list was also heavy with Congressional Black Caucus members who have long been advocating for aid to Africa. It included one Republican, Rep. Mark Foley of Florida.

Last month things started to pick up. Minority Speaker Rep. Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., signed on to Lee's bill, and held a bi-partisan meeting urging legislators to support the issue.

Lee now has about 70 co-sponsors, and is working closely with Leach to merge his bill and hers.

"Barbara has taken a vigorous leadership role," said Leach, who chairs the House Banking Committee, through which both their legislation would have to pass. Leach said he also was inspired by Dellums in the writing of his bill.

"This is an international problem, the solution to which is Oakland-led," he said.

Sandra Thurman, director of President Clinton's Office of National AIDS Policy, is doing her best to make others see the global AIDS crisis as seriously.

The message seems to be convincing the most unlikely legislators -- like staunch conservative Sen. Jesse Helms from North Carolina. Both Boxer and Smith said Helms has indicated he's willing to explore a global AIDS bill.

"Plagues like AIDS don't follow political registration," Smith said. "We should all be very interested and active in finding a cure because we're human beings. It's our problem as a human family."

The sheer horror of the numbers is making the problem easier to talk about, Thurman said.

AIDS discussion changes

These days, political discussions of AIDS involve fewer discussions about promiscuity, drug abuse and homosexuality. Instead, the talks are framed in terms of national security, trade and civil unrest. U.N. studies report that in some African countries, HIV infects more than half the military. During the next 20 years, AIDS is expected to drive back the economies of sub-Saharan Africa to where they were in the 1960s.

And the plague isn't confined to one continent. Officials estimate that by 2005, AIDS deaths in Asia will mirror those in Africa, and Asia will eventually dominate the HIV landscape.

"People are now beginning to grasp the impact that this is going to have, not only on

Africa but in Asia and former Soviet states as well," Thurman said. "I think there's no doubt there's a sense in the Congress that something needs to be done."

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Memo

To: WBATF Working Group Update
From: Michael
Date: October 12, 2000
Re: World Bank meeting follow up

Today, Congresswoman Lee and Chairman Leach convened a meeting with representatives of the World Bank's trust fund branch. Also attending the meeting were Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi; Congresswoman Kilpatrick; Rebecca Walldorff, White House Legislative Affairs; and Sara Paulson, Advisor to the Office of the U.S. Executive Director.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for representatives from the World Bank to brief Members and their staff and representatives from the White House on how the World Bank would negotiate the AIDS Trust Fund authorized in HR 3519, the Global AIDS and Tuberculosis Relief Act.

In the appropriation process, concerns have been raised regarding the manner in which the fund would be established, the establishment time line, the amount of the initial U.S. contribution and how the fund would be deposited.

The following are a number of important points addressed by the World Bank. They are based upon three central questions around the establishment of the AIDS Trust Fund:

1. How long would it take for the World Bank to establish the multilateral trust fund as it has been authorized in H.R. 3519?
2. Is there any forecast of what contributions the trust fund might expect from the G-8 and the private sector?
3. How quickly will the funds be deposited once the fund is established?

The bank has the capacity to respond quickly to establish the trust fund. The bank currently manages more than 870 trust funds and over 6000 accounts. Many of these funds are multilateral funds. They are able to establish the funds within weeks. The World Bank is ready to negotiate the fund and is waiting for the green light from the Secretary of the Treasury.

- There are a number of ways that this fund could be established, either as an initial donor or a multi-donor strategy. This will depend upon how the Treasury directs the bank. The World Bank can sign a contract with the first donor and sign additional donors as they come forward. The Treasury in large part will be responsible for the time table of the fund.
- Currently there is an incredible demand for a strategy such as the World Bank Trust Fund. The European Commission, the Norwegians and Japanese have expressed the desire to participate in a strategy such as the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund. There have been inquiries through intermediaries of philanthropic organizations interested in contributing to a strategy such as the trust fund. At this point, the fund does not exist, thus it is difficult to begin leveraging contributions.
- The amount of funds given as an initial contribution will influence the leveraging capabilities of the bank. The more funds that are available, the easier it will be to engage international partners.
- The absorption capacity in African nations, NGO's and civil society appears to be high. In the last month, the World Bank has committed over \$100 million to fighting AIDS in Africa. Because the funds are not exclusive to governments, the deposition of funds to the NGO's and civil society can happen rapidly.
- The funding priorities would be subject to the negotiations between the Treasury and the World Bank. This would include the appointment of the Executive Board, the Advisory board and policy development for dispersal of grants.
- During the meeting Congresswoman Lee stated that she would continue to push for full funding of the trust fund. This was echoed by Chairman Leach. There was a firm sense that the AIDS Trust Fund could be established within a quick time line.
- ** The U.S. contribution would not be released to the Trust Fund until it was certified by the Sec. of the Treasury.

- Because donor nations will have to engage in an appropriation process in their governmental system, so that leveraging may not happen as quickly as leveraging within the private sector, which may not have a level of bureaucracy that would slow in the in-flow on contributions.

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COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH CONGRESS

2129 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
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October 16, 2000

I- WB AIDS Trust Fund

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BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT

(202) 225-7502

Mr. Gene Sperling
Director
National Economic Council
Old Executive Office Building
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Gene:

I am writing again to urge the President to support full funding for the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund. I do so because I've seldom seen so much mythical criticism of an initiative being repeated by parties in the White House and Congress in discussions over appropriations for the Trust Fund. Because of the misunderstanding and confusion, I've asked James D. Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank, to respond to some of the criticisms that have been raised. Attached is his response to me.

I'd like to flag two commonly iterated concerns that Mr. Wolfensohn's letter directly addresses. First, the concern has been expressed that it would take a long time to set up the trust fund, and that therefore it would make little sense to appropriate significant funding for it. According to Mr. Wolfensohn, the World Bank, which already manages over 800 trust funds, could set the AIDS trust fund up within a matter of weeks; all the Bank needs is the policy direction of the donors which, of course, is up to Treasury and AID to lead. Second, some have expressed skepticism that other governments and private donors would contribute to an AIDS trust fund. As Mr. Wolfensohn's letter indicates, there is increasing interest in and demand for a global vehicle to serve as a common pathway for both government and private donors who share our sense of urgency in addressing the global AIDS crisis. Clearly, the recently enacted World Bank AIDS Trust Fund is the best suited, most immediate vehicle to serve such a purpose. All that stands in the way of this trust fund being negotiated and set up by the end of this year is political will and commitment.

As I indicated to you earlier, the big picture is that the President has an opportunity to lead the world on this issue. If, as is rumored, the Administration is prepared to embrace only \$20 million for this effort, that represents only 13 cents on the dollar for an AIDS trust fund authorized at \$150 million in legislation featured by the President in his August 19, 2000, weekly radio address. To put it bluntly, \$20 million is not a credible effort from the

world's wealthiest and most compassionate nation in the face of what will soon be the worst plague ever to face the planet.

Fortunately, on the positive side, the Administration – from a timing perspective – may at this late date be able to argue for more funding for the trust fund without putting the AIDS Trust Fund in competition with other settled issues relating to international resources. I fully support USAID's bilateral HIV/AIDS initiatives, but I suspect the rap against the World Bank in White House discussions on this issue relates to fear that funding will come out of USAID's budget. Now that the USAID figures seem settled, concern for a World Bank Trust Fund approach should be lessened. But here, the obvious deserves stressing: given the scope of the epidemic, the US will never be able to effectively address the issue on a bilateral basis alone.

In July, Executive Director of UNAIDS, Dr. Peter Piot, announced at the International AIDS Conference in South Africa that what is needed to fight AIDS in Africa alone is \$3 billion a year in basic prevention and care, before we even consider combination therapy. Clearly, this need vastly surpasses the bilateral effort the U.S. can make. The question now is whether the Administration will stand up for a maximum allocation to a multilateral approach to complement our bilateral efforts against the global AIDS crisis and leverage greater effort by other governments and private donors.

I realize the Administration has other legislative priorities and that certain world events have taken center stage. But particularly at a time when the United States is involved in issues of force in the world, it would seem self apparent that it is in our national interest to also lead the world on this issue of compassion. As the President put it himself in describing the AIDS crisis at the bill's signing, "Millions of lives – perhaps hundreds of millions – hang in the balance."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim", written in a cursive style.

James A. Leach
Chairman

JAL:cdf

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Lawrence Summers
Secretary of the Treasury

The Honorable Jacob J. Lew
Director, Office of Management and Budget

The Honorable Harriet C. Babbitt
Deputy Administrator, Agency for International Development

The Honorable Sandra L. Thurman
Presidential Envoy for AIDS Cooperation

The Honorable Jan Piercy
U.S. Executive Director to the World Bank

The Honorable Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

JAMES D. WOLFENSOHN
President

October 16, 2000

The Honorable James A. Leach
The Honorable Barbara Lee
Members of Congress
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Jim and Barbara,

Re: Questions Concerning World Bank AIDS Trust Fund

During what I understand was a fruitful meeting with my staff last week, you posed several questions concerning the proposed World Bank AIDS Trust Fund and asked for our perspectives. Allow me to respond point by point.

- ***How difficult and time-consuming would it be to establish the AIDS Trust Fund?***

The Bank has long experience in establishing and managing trust funds of all types. We currently manage some 870 funds, ranging from global to local, and collectively covering all sectors of development. Establishing trust funds is a fairly routine task, and, unless the proposed AIDS Trust Fund has unusual provisions, it would be a straightforward matter for our Co-financing and Legal departments. Typically, we are able to set up a new fund within a few weeks. The recently enacted legislation authorizing this particular trust fund contains a number of requirements for actions by the US Government before it can be fully operational.

In light of our general expertise in trust funds and the specific priority we have assigned to HIV/AIDS, I am confident that the Bank could move faster than any competing public sector entity in this regard.

- ***How quickly could the funds be used?***

Over the past year, leaders like you, USAID, other bilateral agencies, UNAIDS and the World Bank have devoted unprecedented public attention to the HIV/AIDS crisis. I am pleased to note that this effort is now paying dividends. During the last few months, far more countries than ever before have taken serious strides against the pandemic and have solicited the Bank and our UNAIDS partners for support. This has created a

groundswell of demand for resources—both financial and technical—to help countries intensify their national programs as quickly as possible.

In the case of Africa, on September 12, our Board approved the Multi-Country AIDS Program (MAP) for Africa and set aside \$500 million of IDA money to fund it. At the same time, the Board approved the first two country projects under the MAP, immediately committing \$110 million of the funds to Ethiopia and Kenya. Within two weeks, *ten* more countries in Africa had urgently approached the Bank to support their programs. We now expect to process projects for five of those countries by the end of December, and another five by next June. The projected value of those ten projects is about \$290 million.

This demonstrates the unmet demand that exists for AIDS support. If these projects remain on schedule, the Bank will have committed \$400 million of new money for AIDS in Africa in nine months. We are seeing a similar upsurge of interest in the Caribbean, Central Europe and South Asia. Countries that were previously reluctant even to discuss AIDS are now mounting aggressive programs and actively seeking funding.

But the IDA funds, while significant, fall short of what the countries could effectively absorb, and we are trying to leverage the maximum possible grant support from partners in UNAIDS and other donors, to keep the debt portion of AIDS funding as low as possible. In addition, some countries are reluctant to absorb additional debt burdens, even highly concessional ones, for food and health purposes, no matter the compelling reasons.

All of our HIV/AIDS work is now done in full partnership with UNAIDS, the active donors in each country, NGOs, and other key stakeholders. Grant resources will be an essential complement to current efforts—both to help countries reach comprehensive scale and to keep the debt proportion to manageable levels. We would therefore expect demand for grants to be strong, and this newly created AIDS Trust Fund, with the ability to attract funds on a global basis, would be a welcome addition.

With technical support from UNAIDS and bilateral donors, many countries have now produced comprehensive strategic plans for their national AIDS response, and many more are in process. These plans have been developed through a participatory process that has included key sectors of government, persons living with HIV/AIDS, NGOs, faith-based organizations, and the private sector. The plans recognize that each of these actors plays a key part in the national effort, and makes provisions for them accordingly. Special emphasis has been given to the roles of communities and civil society.

In Ethiopia and Kenya, for example, 50 percent of the resources from the project and the World Bank will be allocated directly to communities and NGOs. This is building both local ownership and higher quality. By offering a complete and locally-developed menu of activities, the plans obviate the need for lengthy project development by external supporters. Further, because the primary approach in most AIDS strategies is to scale up successful *existing* HIV/AIDS programs rather than starting from scratch, disbursements of funds can begin almost immediately.

The AIDS Trust Fund, designed along the lines suggested in its mandate, could also serve countries that the Bank cannot. Funds could be rapidly channeled to NGO-led HIV/AIDS prevention and care in countries where the Bank cannot lend for one reason or another. In Haiti, for example, new IDA credits are not permitted under the Bank's rules until there is a functioning parliament to approve them. Meanwhile, Haiti faces a mounting threat as the epicenter of the growing AIDS epidemic in the Caribbean. The AIDS Trust Fund could directly fund several of the NGOs in Haiti that are effectively working on HIV/AIDS prevention and care, including care for orphans.

Whereas even one year ago it would have been difficult to responsibly commit resources on this scale, today AIDS tops the agenda for action in a growing number of countries. Good policies and programs are in place, and strong leadership—the previously missing ingredient—is coming to the fore. If this momentum is timely matched by serious additional resources from the international community, we can help build a string of successes which will boost countries' confidence and catalyze enough support to sustain a genuinely global response.

- *Is there reason to believe that other donors would view this as an attractive vehicle?*

A growing number of donors agree that the global campaign needs a quick, flexible source of grant funds to help complement bilateral resources and to fill key gaps. Some have even told us explicitly that they would be willing to provide more resources for HIV/AIDS if a credible multi-donor fund existed. A global fund, able to accept donations from multilateral, bilateral and private sector donors, has great appeal for its inherent efficiencies and regional/global reach. On the specific World Bank AIDS Trust Fund there has been little discussion so far, since the fund has not yet come into being. But the *principle* of a trust fund is very appealing both to donors and potential recipients for all the above reasons. In fact, UNAIDS has already indicated their support for the establishment of this trust fund. The World Bank, and other partners, would also be able to actively assist in approaching potential donors for contributions to this trust fund.

- *Is there reason to believe that the private sector and charitable organizations would view this as an attractive vehicle for contributing resources?*

Private and philanthropic entities are prepared to play their part in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Many contribute already in their own ways. Most, however, have been hindered from making truly sizeable contributions for lack of an accountable conduit. Trust funds are proven vehicles for attracting such support. Major foundations already contribute handsomely to global initiatives in which such trust funds are administered by the World Bank. For example, the World Bank is already working effectively with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, both directly and in partnership with them through third party entities, to accomplish mutual goals in maternal and child health initiatives.

Again, so long as the AIDS Trust Fund were widely seen as a truly global instrument, we anticipate that private donations could be substantial.

I hope this information is helpful. In closing, let me reiterate the message the two of you and many of your colleagues, along with the US Administration, have consistently delivered: Now is the time to act decisively against AIDS. Together, we must meet the demand for assistance with new funding that supplements and supports what is already committed for development and debt reduction.

I am an optimist, and so take heart from the triumph over silence that now seems within our grasp. But I am also a realist, and know that the expectations we have raised must be backed by tools and resources commensurate with the crisis before the wave of commitment breaks. I am confident that the countries in danger and all who support them are ready to help such a trust fund succeed. I assure you that the World Bank is.

With my profound thanks to you and all your colleagues

Sincerely yours,



James D. Wolfensohn

cc: Ms. Jan Piercy, US Executive Director

DRAFT - - DRAFT - - DRAFT HR 3519

On March 15, the House Banking Committee approved HR 3519, a bill that authorizes \$200 million annually for five years (FY 2001-2005) to create a trust fund at the World Bank to help combat AIDS.

The bill, introduced by Chairman Leach, drew substantially on another bill (HR 2765) sponsored by Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif.

Support for Lee's bill (informally called the 'AIDS Marshall Plan Fund for Africa Act) was vast – according to Lee it had 85 co-sponsors.

Lee's bill committed \$1 billion to combat HIV/AIDS in Africa. Leach - - by voice vote - - substituted new text based on discussions with Lee. The main change was that the revised version added language to steer most of the money to the hardest-hit areas, namely, sub-Saharan Africa.

Four amendments to the substitute were proposed.

On a 13-12 vote along partician lines, the committee adopted an amendment by Maxine Waters to increase the \$100 million a year authorization in the original Leach draft to \$200 million.

By voice vote Cong. Water's amendment passed that allows the new trust fund to provide technical assistance, as well as grants to foster anti-HIV/AIDS activity.

Waters also wanted an amendment that sought to get the WTO to nullify international intellectual property rights agreements that bar countries from making AIDS medicines available free or at reduced prices, but Leach said this was out of order since it was a trade matter. Waters redrafted her amendment to direct the US director of the World Bank to encourage countries to make HIV/AIDS drugs available at affordable rates in Africa.

By voice vote, the committee approved Rep. Schakowski's amendment that said one of the bills aims is to foster HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment measures and medicines that are effective and affordable.

Background on
House Action on Global AIDS

• **AIDS Marshall Plan Fund for Africa Act**

Last year, Rep. Barbara Lee introduced the “AIDS Marshall Plan Fund for Africa Act”. This bill is the brainchild of former Rep. Ron Dellums, now the chair of the Presidential HIV/AIDS Advisory Council. The bill creates a new US independent agency (corporation) to lead the war on AIDS in Africa through the provision of grants to hard hit African nations. The bill authorizes \$200 million per year for the next five years for this purpose, as well as allows the agency to receive funding from other countries as well as from the private sector. The bill has 76 co-sponsors, most of whom are liberal democrats and Members of the Congressional Black Caucus. There is no Senate companion to this bill.

• **World Bank AIDS Prevention Trust Fund Act**

Early this session, Rep. Jim Leach, chair of the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services introduced the “World Bank AIDS Prevention Trust Fund Act”. This bill directs the Secretary of the Treasury to negotiate the establishment of an AIDS trust fund at the World Bank, and to contribute \$100 million annually for five years on behalf of the US. This trust fund would provide concessional loans for AIDS prevention and care to hard hit African nations. The Senate companion bill was introduced by Senator John Kerry and reported out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as part of the Foreign Assistance and Anti-Corruption Act.

• **World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act**

Last month, the House Banking Committee favorably reported the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act, compromise legislation that seeks to merge the two bills described above. This bill directs the Secretary of the Treasury to negotiate the establishment of an AIDS trust fund at the World Bank, and to contribute \$100 million annually for five years on behalf of the US. This trust fund would provide grants rather than loans for AIDS prevention and care to hard hit African nations. At the mark-up, Rep. Maxine Waters offered an amendment to increase the authorization to \$200 million annually.

Reps. Leach and Lee are working hard to get this bill on the suspension calendar next week. The House Republican Leadership has said that they would not put the bill on suspension unless the sponsors agreed to roll back the authorization figure to \$100 per year. In an effort to get the bill done, they have agreed to do that. To begin to pump up support for the passage of this bill, the House has scheduled time on Tuesday evening of this week for special orders on the AIDS in Africa.

I - WB
Trust FundWASHINGTON OFFICE
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September 27, 2000

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Pelosi:

As you and your colleagues resolve the differences between the House and Senate FY01 Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill, we write to seek your support for \$150 million to fully fund the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund authorized under H.R. 3519. As you are aware, the House and Senate fully supported H.R. 3519, the Global AIDS and Tuberculosis Relief Act and it was signed into law on August 19, 2000 (P.L. 106-264).

The Congress has demonstrated strong leadership to combat this global health crisis by passing this critical legislation; however, funding is needed to demonstrate our full commitment.

The World Bank AIDS Trust Fund would be a landmark public/private partnership that could leverage contributions from the international donor community and the private sector, thereby increasing the initial U.S. contribution to potentially, over \$1 billion a year. These funds would be made available through grants to support HIV/AIDS best practices in the countries hardest hit by HIV/AIDS, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Thus, establishment of the trust fund must be a priority.

As you know, the global epidemics of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis are claiming millions of lives each year. As the death toll increases, these diseases are devastating whole countries, undermining education and health care infrastructures, and wiping out decades of progress on economic development.

We know that infectious diseases like AIDS and tuberculosis do not respect national borders. In order to protect the public health in our own country, we must do more to combat the major diseases confronting developing countries in Africa, Asia, and around the world.

In addition to our request for funding for the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund, we would also like to express our support for the following key areas which are authorized by the legislation:

- \$300 million for the President's international HIV/AIDS initiatives under the LIFE Initiative to support ongoing HIV/AIDS programs in developing countries, including primary HIV prevention and education, HIV care and treatment services, voluntary testing and counseling, and medications to help prevent perinatal transmissions;
- \$60 million for tuberculosis prevention and treatment programs;
- \$50 million for the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) to coordinate a worldwide effort to protect the three million children who die every year from vaccine-preventable diseases; and

President William Jefferson Clinton
Page Three of Three
October 2, 2000

Ellen DeLoach

Michael S. Capron

John W. Oliver

Corine B. Burrell

Maxine Waters

Lane Evans

Lonnie Moella

Sam Far

Bel Sand



May 25, 1999

President William Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

via fax: 202-456-2604

Dear Mr. President:

I write this letter to request a meeting with you to discuss the global threat of HIV/AIDS and the AIDS Marshall Plan for Africa (AMPFA). I have become very active in the effort to provide treatment and care to HIV/AIDS victims throughout the world. I now chair the Constituency for Africa (CFA), and serve on the board of directors for AIDS Action.

As you know, since my retirement from Congress I have been very active in seeking solutions and answers to combat the growing pandemic of HIV/AIDS. I have tried repeatedly to meet and share information with members of your Administration regarding the worsening situation caused by HIV/AIDS in Africa. Needless to say, I am both frustrated and surprised by the lack of follow through and access to key members of your Administration.

I am certain that you are aware of the problems caused by the global spread of HIV/AIDS and how its exponential growth threatens the security of the world. According to UNAIDS, there are currently 7.8 million orphans on the continent of Africa because of HIV/AIDS. That number could expand to 40 million by 2010. Additionally, 11.5 million people have died in sub-Saharan Africa, and 22.5 million will die in the next decade if measures are not developed to slow the spread of the virus.

The above statistics only begin to give you an idea of the extent of the problem caused by HIV/AIDS throughout the developing world. Since October of last year, I have met with several ministers of health from various African countries regarding the problems and solutions for the HIV pandemic. I have shared with them my intention to bring this matter to the attention of the American government. As a result, I have met with the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and they have endorsed the concept of the AMPFA. The CBC has tasked Congresswoman Barbara Lee to draft and introduce legislation that will embody the concept of AMPFA.

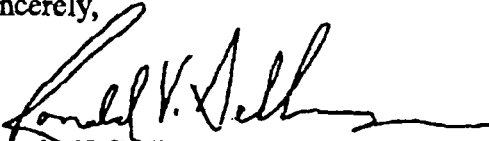
President William Clinton
May 25, 1999
Page 2

You should also know that there is considerable interest in the AMPFA in Africa and throughout the world. I am certain that our discussion is vital and that you will agree that we are pursuing a solution that is worthy of your support. Ms. Sandra Thurman, Director of National AIDS Policy, is familiar with the AMPFA and has provided me with valuable insight and information

Mr. President, the problems caused by HIV/AIDS throughout the world deserves and need the attention of America. We cannot be witnesses to a situation that will kill more people than all world wars combined and will cause severe devastation to the human family. We have a responsibility to prevent another holocaust and therefore, I seek your prompt attention and reply to my request for a meeting.

Please call me directly or contact Charles Stephenson or Ann Brown, of my staff, at 202-857-3290 to arrange for a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald V. Dellums", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ronald V. Dellums
Chair

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 1999

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

According to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "AIDS in Africa is a plague of biblical proportions. It is a holy war that we must win." In Africa today, someone becomes infected with HIV every five seconds, and by the year 2010, more than 40 million children will be orphaned by AIDS. It is hard to overestimate the magnitude of this growing human disaster.

Tragically, AIDS in Africa is much more than a health crisis – it is an economic and security crisis as well. AIDS is striking down skilled workers, pushing families into poverty, driving up the cost of doing business, and steadily chipping away at the gross national product of a growing number of African nations. If we are serious about promoting growth and opportunity in Africa, a more aggressive approach to the global war on AIDS is essential.

As Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, we applaud your Administration for drawing much needed attention to the issue of AIDS in Africa. By sending a Presidential Mission to the front-lines of our battle against AIDS, you have sounded the alarm on this rapidly growing emergency. It is now time for bold and decisive action. Millions of lives and futures hang in the balance.

As you review the findings of this recent Presidential Mission to sub-Saharan Africa and consider options for addressing this horror, we strongly urge you to include a substantial increase in funding for the USAID global AIDS program. While HIV and AIDS have exploded over the past several years, the global AIDS budget has remained the same. A long list of national and international organizations – from Save the Children to the National Urban League – have called on your Administration to amend its budget submission and push for a \$100 million increase in the global AIDS program for FY 2000. We lend our voices to this urgent call.

President Clinton

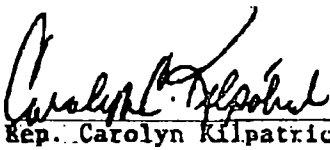
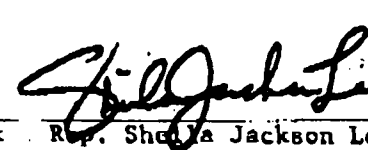
June 16, 1999

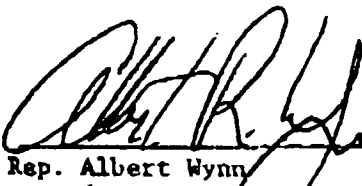
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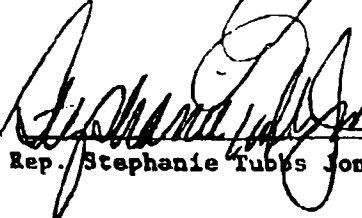
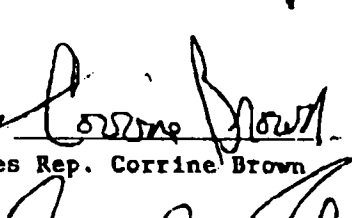
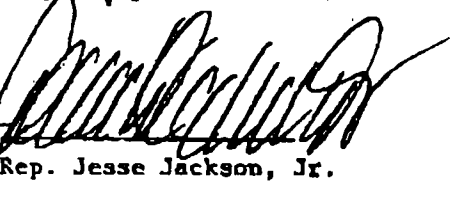
A new partnership with Africa is part of your legacy as President. Unfortunately, AIDS threatens to annihilate that legacy. As we rallied around the people of Kosovo, we must now turn our attention to the children, families and communities across Africa, caught in the crossfire of the AIDS pandemic.

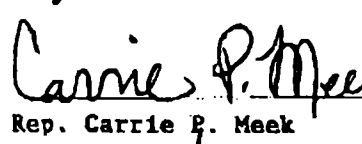
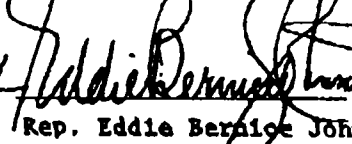
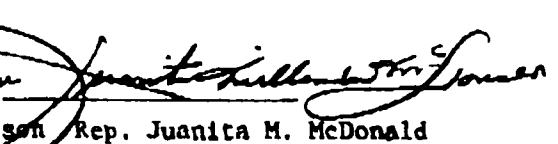
Thank you for your consideration and support. We look forward to working closely with you, as Bishop Tutu said, on winning the battle against AIDS.

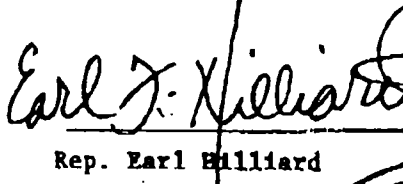
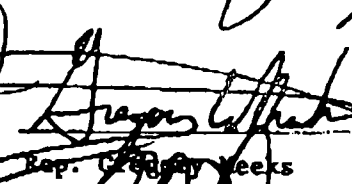
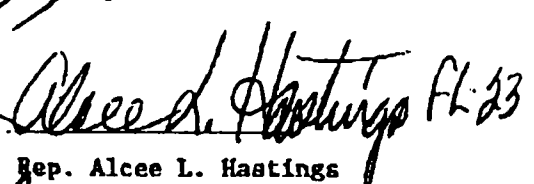
Sincerely,

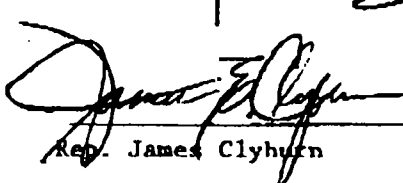
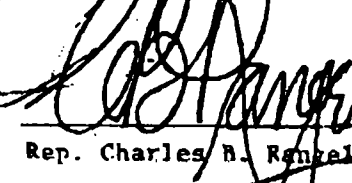
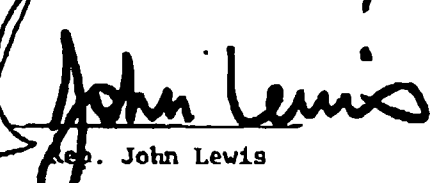
  
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Rep. Albert Wynn Rep. Bennie Thompson Rep. Elijah E. Cummings

  
Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones Rep. Corrine Brown Rep. Jesse Jackson, Jr.

  
Rep. Carrie P. Meek Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson Rep. Juanita M. McDonald

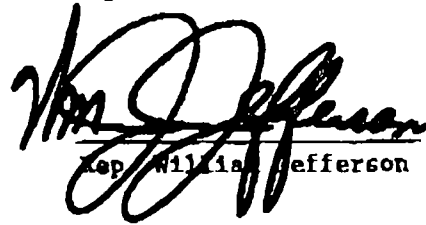
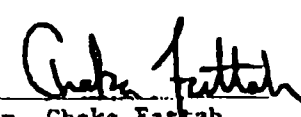
  
Rep. Earl Hilliard Rep. Gregory Meeks Rep. Alcee L. Hastings

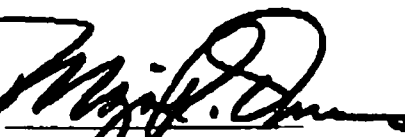
  
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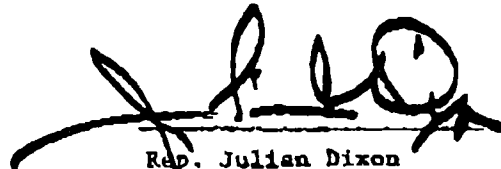
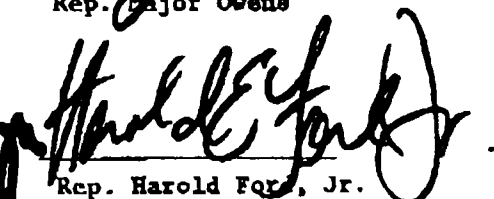
President Clinton

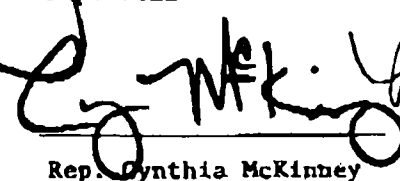
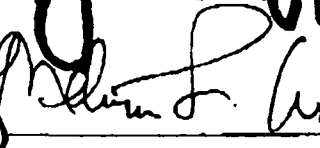
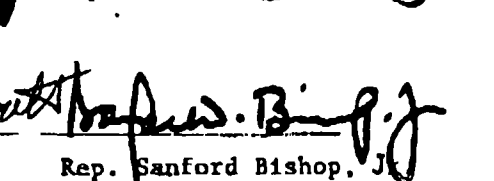
June 16, 1999

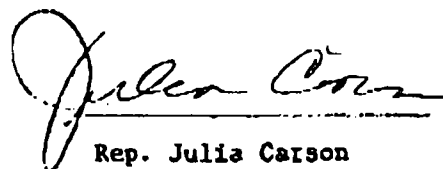
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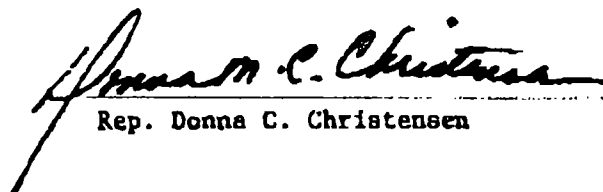
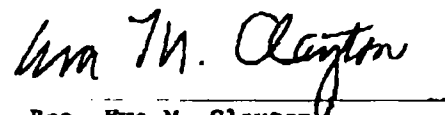
  
Rep. William Jefferson Rep. Danny Davis Rep. Chaka Fattah

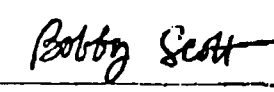
  
Rep. Donald Payne Rep. Ed Towns Rep. Major Owens

  
Rep. Julian Dixon Rep. John Conyers, Jr. Rep. Harold Ford, Jr.

  
Rep. Cynthia McKinney Rep. Melvin Watt Rep. Sanford Bishop, Jr.

 
Rep. Julia Carson Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones

 
Rep. Donna C. Christensen Rep. Eva M. Clayton

  
Rep. Bobby Scott Rep. Maxine Waters Rep. Eleanor H. Norton

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

June 9, 1999

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Once again, thank you for your leadership on your trip to Africa, which established a good foundation for stronger ties between the United States and the countries of Africa. One issue which must be more aggressively addressed as we build these ties is the impact of the AIDS epidemic in Africa.

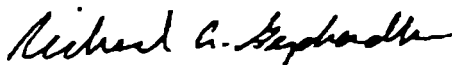
We commend you for sending a Presidential Mission to sub-Saharan Africa in April to investigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on children. We support the efforts by Sandra Thurman, Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, to raise awareness of the growing global AIDS crisis. But, more must be done to address AIDS in Africa.

Across the continent, AIDS is devastating entire communities and undermining long-term investments in human and economic development. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 23 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, 4 million are newly infected every year, and each day, 5,500 men, women, and children die of AIDS. It is projected that there will be 40 million orphans in Africa by the year 2010 because of the AIDS epidemic.

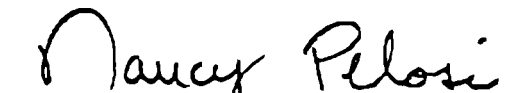
In light of the epidemic's magnitude, we believe that the Administration's FY'2000 budget request for global AIDS is insufficient. We urge you to amend your budget request to respond to this crisis. While we are aware of the severe funding constraints for international affairs created by the Republican budget plan, we nonetheless support a substantial increase for global AIDS. Such an increase cannot come at the expense of other infectious disease programs. We urge you to take bold action and hope you will use the opportunity of the release of your upcoming report on AIDS in Africa to call for a significant increase in the global AIDS program and to make such an increase an Administration priority.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns. We look forward to working with you on providing the needed funds to meet the challenges of the global AIDS epidemic.

Sincerely,



RICHARD GEPHARDT, M.C.



NANCY PELOSI, M.C.

cc: John Podesta
Jack Lew

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2101

June 11, 1999

Mr. Jack Lew
Director
Office of Management and Budget
252 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Jack:

According to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "AIDS in Africa is a plague of biblical proportions. It is a holy war that we must win." In Africa today, someone becomes infected with HIV every 5 seconds, and by the year 2010, more than 40 million children will be orphaned by AIDS. It is hard to overestimate the magnitude of this growing human disaster.

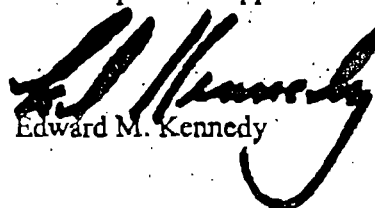
Tragically, AIDS in Africa is much more than a health crisis -- it is an economic and security crisis as well. AIDS is striking down skilled workers, pushing families into poverty, driving up the cost of doing business, and steadily chipping away at the GNP of a growing number of African nations. If we are serious about promoting growth and opportunity in Africa -- a more aggressive approach to the global war on AIDS is essential.

I commend the Administration for drawing much needed attention to the issue of AIDS in Africa and to the global AIDS epidemic generally. By sending a Presidential Mission to the frontlines of the battle against AIDS, you have enlisted America in this vitally important effort. Millions of lives and futures are at stake. The time for us to act is now, before it's too late.

As you review the findings of this recent Presidential Mission and consider options for addressing this crisis, I strongly urge you to include a substantial increase in funding for the USAID global AIDS program. While HIV and AIDS have exploded in recent years, the global AIDS budget has remained level funded. A distinguished list of national and international organizations -- including AIDS Action, Save the Children, the National Urban League, and the Foundation for International Community Assistance -- have called on the Administration to support a \$100 million increase in the global AIDS program for FY2000. I strongly support this increase.

The Administration deserves our gratitude for sounding the alarm on the growing emergency of AIDS in Africa. It is a crisis for children and families and communities that cannot be ignored. Thank you for your time, attention, and commitment. I look forward to working closely with you to win the global battle against AIDS.

With respect and appreciation,



Edward M. Kennedy

July 5, 1999

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and AIDS Action, we are writing to urge you to dramatically improve the US response to our global AIDS emergency. Since you took office in 1993, this global pandemic has exploded with a 300% increase in the number of new HIV infections. Current estimates are that 47 million people worldwide are already infected, and that number will more than double by the year 2005. AIDS now kills more people annually than any other infectious disease, and in many sub-Saharan African nations, one-quarter of all children have already been orphaned by AIDS.

On May 11, 1999, the World Health Organization announced that HIV/AIDS is now the "world's most deadly infectious disease", and holds fourth place among causes of death worldwide. Unfortunately, the US investment in global HIV prevention and AIDS care and support has fallen far short of keeping pace with this raging pandemic. While the death toll soars, the US global AIDS budget remains largely flat funded -- and has for years. If adjusted for inflation, this funding stagnation is actually equivalent to a 25% cut in real spending on our global AIDS effort. For a nation as wealthy as ours, so much more can and must be done.

We are thankful that you, Vice-President Gore, and the ONAP Director Sandy Thurman have traveled to Africa and witnessed the toll the epidemic has had on this continent. Average life spans in several African nations have now fallen to the shortest in the world -- under 40 years -- due to high AIDS mortality rates. It is also estimated that over two-thirds of the global AIDS population is located in Africa. We urge you to amend your FY2000 budget request and push for a \$100 million increase in our global AIDS effort. This new investment will put our nation on track toward a global AIDS program that begins to address the magnitude of this pandemic.

A minimum down payment of at least \$100 million would help stem the rising tide of HIV and bring some modest level of care and support to those who are suffering. We must immediately escalate our current efforts, and continue to do so until we have not only gained ground but begun to get ahead of the curve. This investment must be new money, rather than funds shifted from the strapped budgets of other essential development accounts. Health, education, child-survival and micro-finance are all

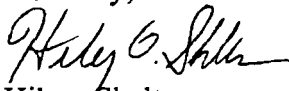
interconnected parts of a comprehensive human investment and AIDS strategy that must not be traded against each other.

Families are being shattered, economies are being decimated, and hundreds of millions of US dollars invested in broad-based development objectives are being obliterated by our failure to fully engage in the battle against AIDS. Every day 16,000 more people become HIV infected -- one every 5 seconds. The global AIDS epidemic has already cost an estimated \$500 billion. A new investment of \$100 million increase in our global AIDS programs would not only save lives, it will help to secure our goals of economic growth and political stability.

Last December on World AIDS Day, you envisioned a world without AIDS and spoke eloquently about our responsibilities as a leader in our global community. Last April, you traveled to Africa and called for new and vibrant partnerships with its many and varied nations. You are a Presidential pioneer in these endeavors. However, if we fail to put this nation's efforts on the war footing needed to combat the scourge of AIDS, it will surely devastate this vitally important legacy.

Every day counts. Together, let us seize this opportunity to secure your legacy of hope in Africa and around the world, through determined leadership in the battle against AIDS.

Sincerely,



Hilary Shelton

Director

NAACP Washington Bureau



Daniel Zingale

Executive Director

AIDS Action

cc: Jack Lew
John Podesta
Bruce Reed
Sandy Thurman

MOTHERS' VOICES

United to end AIDS®



June 7, 1999

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to urge you to dramatically improve the US response to our global AIDS emergency. Since you took office in 1993, this global pandemic has exploded with a 300% increase in the number of new HIV infections. Current estimates are that 47 million people worldwide are already infected, and that number will more than double by the year 2005. AIDS now kills more people annually than any other infectious disease, and in many sub-Saharan African nations, one-quarter of all children have already been orphaned by AIDS.

Unfortunately, the US investment in global HIV prevention and AIDS care and support has fallen far short of keeping pace with this raging pandemic. While the death toll soars, the US global AIDS budget remains largely flat funded -- and has for years. If adjusted for inflation, this funding stagnation is actually equivalent to a 25% cut in real spending on our global AIDS effort. For a nation as wealthy as ours, this is shameful.

We have followed with interest the Presidential AIDS Mission to sub-Saharan Africa which you charged ONAP Director Sandy Thurman to lead this April. After directing the Administration and the Congress to bear witness to the ravages of AIDS, it is now time for concrete and bold action. The undersigned organizations urge you to amend your FY2000 budget request and push for a \$100 million increase in our global AIDS effort. This new investment will put our nation on track toward a global AIDS program that begins to address the magnitude of this pandemic.

If we hope to help stem the rising tide of HIV and bring some modest level of care and support to those who are suffering, we must immediately escalate our current efforts, and continue to do so until we have not only gained ground but begun to get ahead of the curve. A minimum down payment of at least \$100 million would do just that. This investment must be new money, rather than funds shifted from the strapped budgets of other essential development accounts. Health, education, child-survival and micro-finance are all interconnected parts of a comprehensive human investment and AIDS strategy that must not be traded against each other.

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Trish Moylan-Tornuella

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*In Memoriam

165 West 46th Street
Suite 701
New York, NY 10036

telephone
212.730.2777
facsimile
212.730.4378
internet
<http://www.mvoices.org>

Families are being shattered, economies are being decimated, and hundreds of millions of US dollars invested in broad-based development objectives are being obliterated by our failure to fully engage in the battle against AIDS. The global AIDS epidemic has already cost an estimated \$500 billion.

Last December on World AIDS Day, you envisioned a world without AIDS and spoke eloquently about our responsibilities as a leader in our global community. Last April, you traveled to Africa and called for new and vibrant partnerships with its many and varied nations. You are a Presidential pioneer in these endeavors. However, if we fail to put this nation's efforts on the war footing needed to combat the scourge of AIDS, it will surely devastate this vitally important legacy.

AIDS is a plague of biblical proportions. Every day 16,000 more people become HIV infected -- one every 5 seconds. Everyday we wait, children and families pay the price. A new investment of \$100 million increase in our global AIDS programs would not only save lives, it will help to secure our goals of economic growth and political stability.

Every day counts. Together, let us seize this opportunity to secure your legacy of hope in Africa and around the world, through determined leadership in the battle against AIDS.

Sincerely,

Mothers' Voices and

AIDS Action Council
AIDS Legal Referral Panel
AIDS National Interfaith Network
ADIS Nutrition Services Alliance
AIDS Policy Center for Children, Youth and Families
Advocates for Youth
Americans for Democratic Action
American Association for World Health
Asian Pacific Health Care Venture
Center for Health and Gender Equity
Committee of Ten Thousand
D.C. CARE (Comprehensive AIDS Resource and Education) Consortium
Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA)
Friendship Bridge
Global AIDS Action Network
Human Rights Campaign
Mobilization Against AIDS
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative

Kids Project

National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA)

National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors

National Catholic AIDS Coalition

Northern Counties Health Care

Northwest AIDS Foundation

Pact, Inc.

San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Save the Children

Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

Title II Community AIDS National Network



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JOBERT C. LARSON

June 8, 1999

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to urge you to dramatically increase the U.S. response to the global AIDS emergency. Since you took office in 1993, this global pandemic has exploded, with a 300% increase in the number of new HIV infections. Current estimates are that 47 million people worldwide are already infected, and that number will more than double by the year 2005. AIDS now kills more people annually than any other infectious disease, and in many sub-Saharan African nations, one-quarter of all children have already been orphaned by AIDS.

Unfortunately, the U.S. investment in global HIV prevention and AIDS care has fallen far short of keeping pace with this raging pandemic. While the death toll soars, the U.S. global AIDS budget remains largely flat funded – and has for years. If adjusted for inflation, this funding stagnation is actually equivalent to a 25% cut in real spending on our global AIDS effort. In a nation as wealthy as ours, this is unacceptable.

We have followed with interest the Presidential AIDS Mission to sub-Saharan Africa which you charged ONAP Director Sandy Thurman to lead this April. After directing the Administration and the Congress to bear witness to the ravages of AIDS, it is now time for concrete and bold action. On behalf of the Urban League movement, I urge you to amend your FY2000 budget request and push for a \$100 million increase in our global AIDS effort. This new investment will put our nation on track toward a global AIDS program that begins to address the magnitude of this pandemic.

If we hope to help stem the rising tide of HIV and bring some modest level of care and support to those who are suffering, we must immediately escalate our current efforts, and continue to do so until we have not only gained ground but begun to get ahead of the curve. A minimum down payment of at least \$100 million would do just that. This

President William J. Clinton

June 8, 1999

Page Two

investment must be new money, rather than funds shifted from the strapped budgets of other essential development accounts. Health, education, child-survival and micro-finance are all interconnected parts of a comprehensive human investment and AIDS strategy that must not be traded against each other.

Families are being shattered, economies are being decimated, and hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars invested in broad-based development objectives are being obliterated by our failure to fully engage in the battle against AIDS. The global AIDS epidemic has already cost an estimated \$500 billion.

Last December on World AIDS Day, you envisioned a world without AIDS and spoke eloquently about our responsibilities as a leader in our global community. One year ago in April, you traveled to Africa and called for new and vibrant partnerships with its many and varied nations. You are a Presidential pioneer in these endeavors, and we applaud you. However, if we fail to put this nation's AIDS effort on the war footing needed to combat this scourge, it will surely devastate this vitally important legacy.

AIDS is a plague of biblical proportions. Every day 16,000 more people become HIV infected – one every 5 seconds. Everyday we wait, children and families pay the price. A new investment of \$100 million in our global AIDS programs would not only save lives, it will help to secure our goals of economic growth and political stability.

Every day counts. I urge you to seize this opportunity to secure your legacy of hope in Africa and around the world, through determined leadership in the battle against AIDS, and the commitment of resources needed to win this war.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Hugh B. Price". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Hugh" being particularly prominent.

Hugh B. Price
President



THE KING CENTER

CORETTA SCOTT KING
Founder

June 23, 1999

DEXTER SCOTT KING
Chairman, President and
Chief Executive Officer

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

CHRISTINE KING FARRIS
Vice Chair, Treasurer

BERNICE A. KING
Secretary

Dear President Clinton,

I write, first to thank you for appointing John William Marshall the next Director of the U.S. Marshall's Service. Once again you have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to insuring that minorities receive a fair share of Presidential appointments, and I appreciate your leadership.

I am also writing to ask you to amend your Fiscal Year 2000 budget proposal to increase funding for global prevention and treatment of AIDS to \$100 million. As you know funding for the U.S. AIDS global outreach has increased very little in recent years, and amounts to a net reduction when inflation is taken into consideration. A modest increase of \$100 million in funding, however, would substantially improve our prospects for addressing the worldwide AIDS crisis.

Such an increase would be a cost-effective investment, which would save many lives and strengthen the ability of developing nations to more effectively manage their health care resources. It would also improve their ability to trade with the U.S. and help protect the growing global market for U.S. products. The global AIDS pandemic infects 16 thousand people every day, and has already cost an estimated \$500 billion. This figure will increase dramatically in the years ahead ... unless we embrace the challenge of making a meaningful investment in global AIDS prevention and treatment while we still can.

Mr. President, You have an impressive record of leadership in providing strong support of AIDS research, prevention and treatment programs. If you will now support this modest increase in U.S. funding for AIDS prevention and treatment, I believe we will have a chance to halt this deadly pandemic, save lives and improve the quality of life for millions of people.

Sincerely,

Coretta Scott King



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

WILLIAM LUCY
President
Int'l Secy-Treasurer, AFSCME

WILLIE L. BAKER, JR.
Exec-Vice President
Int'l Vice President, UFCW

CLAYOLA BROWN
First Vice President
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LEW MOYE
Second Vice President
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CWEND JOHNSON
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Administrative Assistant
to the Exec. VP.
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ERNEST LOFTON
Secretary
UAW (Retired)

ROBERT SIMPSON
Corresponding Secretary
TEAMSTERS (Retired)

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GEORGE FREEMAN
Director of Community Action
ICWU

GERA ROBINSON
IUE Local 698

GEORGE RUDGER
Int'l Vice President
LIUNA

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT
TO THE PRESIDENT**
WIL DUNCAN

June 2, 1999

William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists urges your leadership, Mr. President, to stem the suffering that HIV/AIDS has brought to millions of working families, young people and children around the globe. We know that through the good offices of Sandra Thurman, you are kept apprised of the staggering toll the disease is taking here at home, worldwide, and particularly on the African continent.

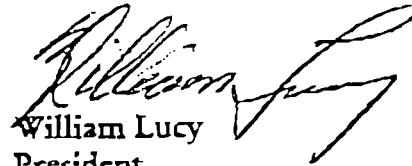
Ms. Thurman's recently concluded fact-finding mission to southern Africa highlighted the fact that,--without bold leadership--this pandemic will not only change the face of Africa, but will reach into every corner of the planet--leaving a path of devastation in its wake. Now is the time to substantially increase the United States' financial commitment to combat the disease internationally and to challenge other industrialized countries to do the same. U.S. unions and their brothers and sisters overseas can be a critical resource in this important struggle as well.

Mr. President, America's capacity to wage war on HIV/AIDS here at home and abroad is in serious need of revitalization. It is time to take stock of: what has been accomplished; the mechanisms now in use; and whether we are best positioned to respond to the future challenges that will be posed by the pandemic. We need to challenge assumptions, infuse creativity and benefit from the tremendous knowledge, experience and energy of the world's grassroots activists--in the U.S. government's efforts to fight this disease.

Domestically, we applaud your efforts to respond to the soaring infection rates among America's ethnic communities, but we sadly note that the resources devoted to education and prevention efforts among working people in the U.S. have nearly been eliminated. Internationally, even though "The U.S. International Response to HIV/AIDS" strategy document cites the important global role of trade unions in HIV/AIDS education and prevention, next to no resources have been extended for such efforts--rendering them impotent.

Years ago we rolled up our sleeves to fight HIV/AIDS, and we are ready to join you in the next stage of the fight against this scourge: in the workplaces and in the homes of working families around the world.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Lucy", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the name.

William Lucy
President

WL:lh



June 15, 1999

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to urge you to set the U.S. response to the global AIDS epidemic on the proper course by dramatically increasing funding for international prevention and treatment programs.

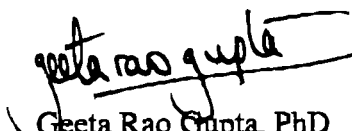
We applaud your recent remarks in which you acknowledged that "AIDS has surpassed tuberculosis and malaria to become the leading infectious killer in the world, claiming 2.5 million lives in 1998 alone – and growing...at truly breathtaking rates in Africa and India – we cannot afford to waste a second in our fight against it." Translating this call into action demands that the U.S. respond to this epidemic in proportion to its global impact. While there has been a 300 percent increase in the number of new HIV infections since 1993, U.S. funding for global AIDS programs has remained constant for years. Adjusted for inflation, this means a 25 percent cut in real spending.

Your Administration has made unprecedented contributions toward improving the economic and social status of women worldwide. The hard-won progress women have enjoyed in recent years is now threatened in many countries of sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia as women and girls fall victim to the AIDS epidemic, both by themselves becoming infected and by the need to care for sick family members. Women, especially young women, are one of the fastest growing groups among the infected. As a result, the number of children orphaned by AIDS is projected to reach 40 million by the year 2010.

The impact of the AIDS epidemic reverberates beyond the health sector. We urge you to instruct all U.S. government departments with international programs in countries affected by the epidemic to assess its impact on their areas of work and formulate responses that could help to mitigate and prevent further spread of the disease. The pervasive effect of the epidemic urgently requires a broad-based, comprehensive response.

As you near the end of your Presidency, on the threshold of the new millennium, we urge you to act boldly, swiftly, and wisely to ensure that the U.S. takes a leading role in addressing the global AIDS pandemic. The commitment of U.S. leadership and resources can lay the groundwork for an expanded global response to ameliorate the suffering and, ultimately to put an end to this human tragedy.

Sincerely,



Geeta Rao Gupta, PhD
President

Cc: Albert Gore, Vice-President
John Podesta, White House Chief of Staff
Madeline Albright, Secretary of State
Donna Shalala, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
Jack Lew, Director of OMB
Frank Loy, Deputy Undersecretary for Global Affairs
Brian Atwood, Administrator, USAID
Bruce Reed, Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Sean Maloney, Assistant to the President

The World Bank
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

JAMES D. WOLFENSOHN
President

May 27, 1999

The Honorable
William J. Clinton
The President
United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The AIDS epidemic is reversing decades of progress in improving the quality of life in developing countries. More than 33 million men, women, and children are infected with HIV worldwide, and more than 90 percent of those infected live in developing countries—two-thirds in Sub-Saharan Africa. In the hardest-hit African countries, life expectancy is now 10-20 years shorter than it would have been without AIDS. Meanwhile 16,000 more people worldwide become infected each day.

AIDS has therefore become a core development issue, and confronting the AIDS epidemic in developing countries has become critical to all our efforts for poverty reduction, growth, and improved quality of life. I welcome the strong concern G8 leaders have shown at past meetings, but I believe we now have to move together to a new level of action, on three fronts:

First, we must reinforce political commitment and active leadership in preventing HIV/AIDS. There is no cure for AIDS and no vaccine, but there *are* educational and behavioral interventions that work *now* to curb its spread. Half of the population of developing countries—3.5 billion people—live in countries or areas where there is still time to prevent an epidemic. Top-level, visible political leadership can make a critical difference in bringing AIDS to the top of the social and political agenda.

Second, we must urgently find low-cost, effective therapies that are within the reach of developing countries—for example to prevent mother-child transmission and to fight AIDS-related infections like TB—and strengthen health systems to deal with the increased demand for health care. This is particularly acute in Sub-Saharan Africa, where the largest number of AIDS patients live, health systems are weak, and the ability to pay is very low.

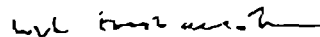
Third, we need to recognize that there is an emerging set of global health issues for which we need new approaches and instruments: accelerating the development of an HIV/AIDS vaccine that is affordable and effective in developing countries is a crucial instance. An AIDS vaccine for low-income countries is an *international public good* which is not likely to happen without innovative international public action. Private industry must play the critical role in developing and marketing a vaccine, but the private sector currently does not have the incentives to develop an AIDS vaccine for the strains of the virus and the health system capabilities of developing countries. There is growing consensus on the need for global partnership to ensure that AIDS vaccine development will move swiftly—but it will take a number of years, and much longer unless we act now.

The Bank is already hard at work on this through a special task force charged with developing new partnerships and financing instruments which bring the private and public sectors worldwide together to speed the advent of an AIDS vaccine. In this, we are working closely with UNAIDS, WHO, the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, and other international partners. And we are starting a major program to push much greater deployment of existing vaccines, which will be good for poor people's health now, and will also encourage industry to bring new vaccines onstream.

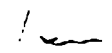
The World Bank has lent more than US\$765 million since 1986 to help developing countries deal with the AIDS epidemic, and in recent years has been lending about \$1.6 billion annually for programs to strengthen health systems. But this is not enough. We are developing a new initiative of intensified action against AIDS in Africa, and I am determined that we will dramatically increase our response to this global epidemic. On all these fronts, we will work closely with our partner institutions of the UNAIDS coalition.

It is time to take collective action on the G8 communiqués from Denver and Birmingham to spur the development of an AIDS vaccine, and perhaps to link this effort to other global health challenges, such as the need for new therapies and a vaccine for malaria. The international community, including the developing countries, urgently needs to elaborate a global strategy for advancing this effort, an understanding of what different actors are already doing, and where there are gaps that need to be filled. The World Bank is ready to play its part in bringing it to fruition.

We will warmly welcome your support and ideas, and your commitment to urgent international action.



Sincerely yours,



James D. Wolfensohn

cc: Hon. Robert Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury

Attachment

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 1999

**Mr. Jacob Lew
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20503**

Dear Mr. Lew:

I thank you for your dedication toward a fair and balanced budget. Along with our President, you have been making the difficult, but not mutually exclusive, choices of a fiscally prudent spending plan that makes sufficient investment in America and Americans.

As you know, we represented the United States of America on a Presidential Delegation to examine the growing crisis of African children orphaned by AIDS, now totaling 7 million, and to formulate a comprehensive Congressional response to the epidemic. As such, we have first hand knowledge and understanding of the impact of this devastating disease upon the people of Sub-Saharan Africa and upon the United States' efforts to ensure economic growth and encourage political stability for the region.

We write you today to issue our strong support for the Delegation report that will be issued by the National Office of AIDS Policy, directed by Sandra Thurman. The report makes clear several priorities to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Sub-Saharan Africa that could be incorporated during any future budgetary negotiations with Congress, as highlighted below:

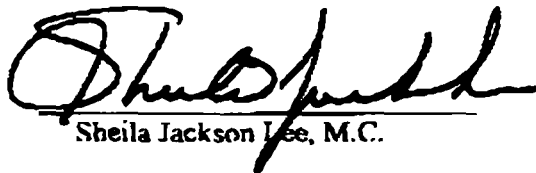
- True debt relief for Africa, with debt savings used by eligible Sub-Saharan countries to expand HIV/ AIDS prevention and treatment;**
- Increased funding for USAID programs targeting HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in Sub-Saharan Africa;**
- Support for public private partnerships dedicated to the eradication of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa; and**
- Involvement of the churches and faith communities of our nation toward this effort.**

We respectfully ask that your office give full consideration to the funding of these initiatives, as it is vital to the collective health of our nation and this world that the HIV/AIDS epidemic becomes primary focus of our President and of your office.

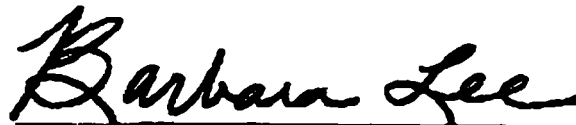
Additionally, we also request a meeting with you and President Clinton to discuss our visit to Africa and how, together, we can work toward real and sustainable solutions to address the AIDS pandemic in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Again, thank you for your hard work and dedication. Please do not hesitate to contact us at your earliest convenience. We look forward to your positive response to our request.

Very Truly Yours,


Sheila Jackson Lee, M.C.


Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, M.C.


Barbara Lee, M.C.



OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:

Debra Fraser-Howze

FROM:

Sandra Thurman

COMPANY:

DATE:

July 7, 1999

FAX NUMBER:

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

Per our discussion.

736 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503
(202) 456-2437
(202) 456-2438 (fax)

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Congresswoman Barbara Lee
9th District of California
U.S. House of Representatives

Fax Cover Sheet

Date: 7-13-99

Pages to Follow: 2

To: President
(Minyon Moore)

From: Jennifer

Fax number: 456-2983

Message:

Letter

CC:
Sandy Thurman
Jack Lee
JHL

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414 Cannon HOB * Washington, DC 20515

Telephone (202) 225-2661

Fax (202) 225-9817

BARBARA LEE
9TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:
BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

REPLY TO:
OFFICE CHECKED:

U.S. 414 CANNON H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2661

17 1301 CLAY STREET
SUITE 1000 N
OAKLAND, CA 94612
(510) 763-0370



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0509

July 13, 1999

WASHINGTON OFFICE
CARLOTTA A. W. SCOTT
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DISTRICT OFFICE
SANDRE R. SWANSON
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
ROBERTA CHIEFF BROOKS
ASSISTANT DISTRICT DIRECTOR

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On June 16 of this year, the Congressional Black Caucus sent a letter to you strongly urging a \$100 million increase in the global AIDS program for FY 2000. Several of us sent a letter to Director Jacob J. Lew expressing our grave concern for the devastating HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa.

It is our understanding that this increase for the global AIDS program is strongly being considered. We are very pleased and supportive of this initiative, and would like to thank you for the attention being given to this issue. As we are all sadly aware, the magnitude of the HIV/AIDS disaster has created a state of emergency for many African communities, and worldwide, and our response, as a nation, has been sorely inadequate.

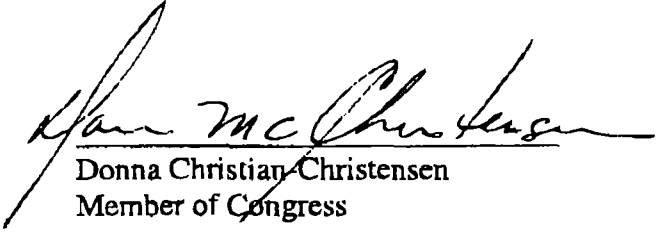
It is also our understanding that the \$100 million increase in funding may come at the expense of existing development assistance accounts including health, education, and sustainable agriculture. We respectfully recommend that new monies be made available for the increase in funding for the global AIDS program this year, and as a comprehensive ongoing commitment. It is our strong belief that the gravity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic commands our attention and funding at this level, and that it is possible within our national budget to meet this funding need. In the recently passed emergency supplemental appropriations bill, for example, Congress approved \$12 billion to fund defense and international/refugee relief in Kosovo. It is our belief that our attention to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, which is obliterating entire generations, is as dire as funding for Yugoslavia.

We thank you for your consideration and support of this issue. As we have expressed to you in the past, it is our belief that funding to combat the HIV/AIDS epidemic is vital to the collective health of our nation and the world. We look forward to working with you to end the suffering and devastation wreaked by this epidemic.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

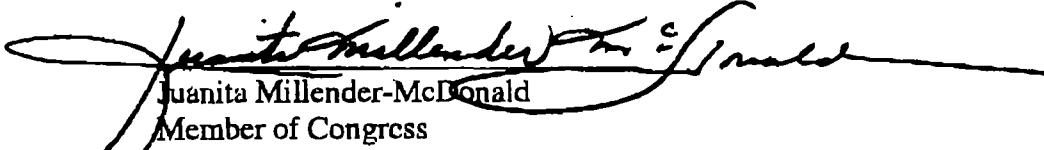
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Donna Christian Christensen
Member of Congress



Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick
Member of Congress



Juanita Millender-McDonald
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Albert Gore, Vice President
The Honorable Jacob J. Lew, Director, Office of Management and Budget
The Honorable John Podesta, Chief of Staff, Office of the President
Ms. Sandra L. Thurman, Director, Office of National AIDS Policy



Congresswoman Barbara Lee
9th District of California
U.S. House of Representatives

Fax Cover Sheet

Date: 7/13/99

Pages to Follow: 2

To: _____

Ms. Sandra

From: _____

Thurman /

Cheryl

Fax number: _____

Jennifer

Message:

Letter

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414 Cannon HOB * Washington, DC 20515

Telephone (202) 225-2661

Fax (202) 225-9817

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2101

June 11, 1999

Mr. Jack Lew
Director
Office of Management and Budget
252 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Jack:

According to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "AIDS in Africa is a plague of biblical proportions. It is a holy war that we must win." In Africa today, someone becomes infected with HIV every 5 seconds, and by the year 2010, more than 40 million children will be orphaned by AIDS. It is hard to overestimate the magnitude of this growing human disaster.

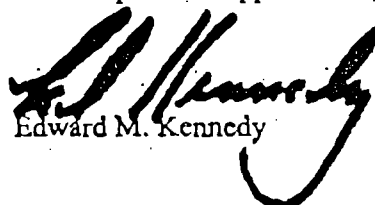
Tragically, AIDS in Africa is much more than a health crisis -- it is an economic and security crisis as well. AIDS is striking down skilled workers, pushing families into poverty, driving up the cost of doing business, and steadily chipping away at the GNP of a growing number of African nations. If we are serious about promoting growth and opportunity in Africa -- a more aggressive approach to the global war on AIDS is essential.

I commend the Administration for drawing much needed attention to the issue of AIDS in Africa and to the global AIDS epidemic generally. By sending a Presidential Mission to the frontlines of the battle against AIDS, you have enlisted America in this vitally important effort. Millions of lives and futures are at stake. The time for us to act is now, before it's too late.

As you review the findings of this recent Presidential Mission and consider options for addressing this crisis, I strongly urge you to include a substantial increase in funding for the USAID global AIDS program. While HIV and AIDS have exploded in recent years, the global AIDS budget has remained level funded. A distinguished list of national and international organizations -- including AIDS Action, Save the Children, the National Urban League, and the Foundation for International Community Assistance -- have called on the Administration to support a \$100 million increase in the global AIDS program for FY2000. I strongly support this increase.

The Administration deserves our gratitude for sounding the alarm on the growing emergency of AIDS in Africa. It is a crisis for children and families and communities that cannot be ignored. Thank you for your time, attention, and commitment. I look forward to working closely with you to win the global battle against AIDS.

With respect and appreciation,



Edward M. Kennedy

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

June 9, 1999

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Once again, thank you for your leadership on your trip to Africa, which established a good foundation for stronger ties between the United States and the countries of Africa. One issue which must be more aggressively addressed as we build these ties is the impact of the AIDS epidemic in Africa.

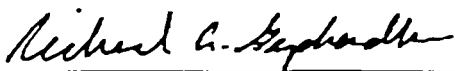
We commend you for sending a Presidential Mission to sub-Saharan Africa in April to investigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on children. We support the efforts by Sandra Thurman, Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, to raise awareness of the growing global AIDS crisis. But, more must be done to address AIDS in Africa.

Across the continent, AIDS is devastating entire communities and undermining long-term investments in human and economic development. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 23 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, 4 million are newly infected every year, and each day, 5,500 men, women, and children die of AIDS. It is projected that there will be 40 million orphans in Africa by the year 2010 because of the AIDS epidemic.

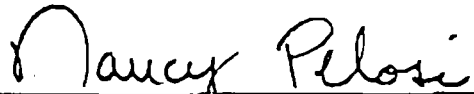
In light of the epidemic's magnitude, we believe that the Administration's FY'2000 budget request for global AIDS is insufficient. We urge you to amend your budget request to respond to this crisis. While we are aware of the severe funding constraints for international affairs created by the Republican budget plan, we nonetheless support a substantial increase for global AIDS. Such an increase cannot come at the expense of other infectious disease programs. We urge you to take bold action and hope you will use the opportunity of the release of your upcoming report on AIDS in Africa to call for a significant increase in the global AIDS program and to make such an increase an Administration priority.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns. We look forward to working with you on providing the needed funds to meet the challenges of the global AIDS epidemic.

Sincerely,



RICHARD GEPHARDT, M.C.



NANCY PELOSI, M.C.

cc: John Podesta
Jack Lew



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

WILLIAM LUCY
President
Int'l Secy-Treasurer, AFSCME

WILLIE L. BAKER, JR.
Exec. Vice President
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CLAYDLA BROWN
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CWA

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JOE DAVIS
Director of Civil Rights
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GEORGE FREEMAN
Director of Community Action
ICWU

ODRA ROBINSON
IUE Local 898

GEORGE GUDGER
Int'l Vice President
LIUNA

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT
TO THE PRESIDENT**
WIL DUNCAN

June 2, 1999

William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists urges your leadership, Mr. President, to stem the suffering that HIV/AIDS has brought to millions of working families, young people and children around the globe. We know that through the good offices of Sandra Thurman, you are kept apprised of the staggering toll the disease is taking here at home, worldwide, and particularly on the African continent.

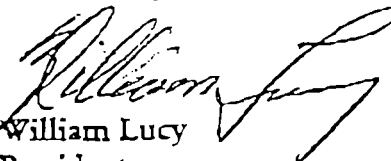
Ms. Thurman's recently concluded fact-finding mission to southern Africa highlighted the fact that, without bold leadership--this pandemic will not only change the face of Africa, but will reach into every corner of the planet--leaving a path of devastation in its wake. Now is the time to substantially increase the United States' financial commitment to combat the disease internationally and to challenge other industrialized countries to do the same. U.S. unions and their brothers and sisters overseas can be a critical resource in this important struggle as well.

Mr. President, America's capacity to wage war on HIV/AIDS here at home and abroad is in serious need of revitalization. It is time to take stock of: what has been accomplished; the mechanisms now in use; and whether we are best positioned to respond to the future challenges that will be posed by the pandemic. We need to challenge assumptions, infuse creativity and benefit from the tremendous knowledge, experience and energy of the world's grassroots activists--in the U.S. government's efforts to fight this disease.

Domestically, we applaud your efforts to respond to the soaring infection rates among America's ethnic communities, but we sadly note that the resources devoted to education and prevention efforts among working people in the U.S. have nearly been eliminated. Internationally, even though "The U.S. International Response to HIV/AIDS" strategy document cites the important global role of trade unions in HIV/AIDS education and prevention, next to no resources have been extended for such efforts--rendering them impotent.

Years ago we rolled up our sleeves to fight HIV/AIDS, and we are ready to join you in the next stage of the fight against this scourge: in the workplaces and in the homes of working families around the world.

In solidarity,


William Lucy
President

WL:lh

White House Office
on National AIDS

FAX: PLEASE DELIVER

**NATIONAL URBAN
LEAGUE, INC.**

**Office of the President
120 Wall Street, 8th Fl.
New York, NY 10005
(212) 558-5336 or 37
(212) 344-5188 (Fax#)**

To: Sandy Thurman From: Joan Lucas
Fax: 202-456-2439 Date: June 10, 1999
Phone: _____ Pages (including cover sheet): 3
Re: _____ CC: _____

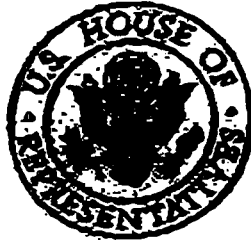
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•Comments:

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Office of
Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick

Washington
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Washington, DC 20515
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Fax: (202) 225-5730



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FAX COVER SHEET

To: Sandy Thurman Office: _____
Fax: (456-2439) Date: 20 June 1999
From: JAMES WILLIAMS
Re: _____
Pages (including cover): 5

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(CBC memo)

Comments: Signatures on the AIDS letter. Signers are Reps:
Kilpatrick; Shelia Jackson Lee; Barbara Lee; Dwyer, Thompson;
Cummings; Tubbs-Jones; Brown, Jackson; Meek; Johnson;
McDonald; Ailland; Meeks; Hastings; Clyburn; Rangel;
Lewis; Jefferson; Davis; Fatah; Payne; Towns; Owens;
Dixon; Conyers.

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Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 1999

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

According to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "AIDS in Africa is a plague of biblical proportions. It is a holy war that we must win." In Africa today, someone becomes infected with HIV every five seconds, and by the year 2010, more than 40 million children will be orphaned by AIDS. It is hard to overestimate the magnitude of this growing human disaster.

Tragically, AIDS in Africa is much more than a health crisis – it is an economic and security crisis as well. AIDS is striking down skilled workers, pushing families into poverty, driving up the cost of doing business, and steadily chipping away at the gross national product of a growing number of African nations. If we are serious about promoting growth and opportunity in Africa, a more aggressive approach to the global war on AIDS is essential.

As Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, we applaud your Administration for drawing much needed attention to the issue of AIDS in Africa. By sending a Presidential Mission to the front-lines of our battle against AIDS, you have sounded the alarm on this rapidly growing emergency. It is now time for bold and decisive action. Millions of lives and futures hang in the balance.

As you review the findings of this recent Presidential Mission to sub-Saharan Africa and consider options for addressing this horror, we strongly urge you to include a substantial increase in funding for the USAID global AIDS program. While HIV and AIDS have exploded over the past several years, the global AIDS budget has remained the same. A long list of national and international organizations – from Save the Children to the National Urban League – have called on your Administration to amend its budget submission and push for a \$100 million increase in the global AIDS program for FY 2000. We lend our voices to this urgent call.

President Clinton
June 16, 1999
Page Two

A new partnership with Africa is part of your legacy as President. Unfortunately, AIDS threatens to annihilate that legacy. As we rallied around the people of Kosovo, we must now turn our attention to the children, families and communities across Africa, caught in the crossfire of the AIDS pandemic.

Thank you for your consideration and support. We look forward to working closely with you, as Bishop Tutu said, on winning the battle against AIDS.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Lopez *Elizabeth Lee* *Barbara Lee*

Albert R. Young *Sam Adams* *Erica Thompson*

Stephen J. Miller *Corinne Brown* *William Miller*

Carrie P. Meek *Judith Bernick* *James H. Miller* *Tracy S. Sauer*

Earl J. Williams *Gregory L. Smith* *Alfred D. Hastings* *FL-23*

James E. Lyons *Robert A. Rangel* *John Lewis*

President Clinton

June 16, 1999

Page Three

Van Jefferson Darrough Davis Graham Feltch

Donald Wayne Thomas Mijik. Duno

J. L. O. John Cuyper



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BERNICE A. KING
Secretary

June 23, 1999

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton,

I write, first to thank you for appointing John William Marshall the next Director of the U.S. Marshall's Service. Once again you have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to insuring that minorities receive a fair share of Presidential appointments, and I appreciate your leadership.

I am also writing to ask you to amend your Fiscal Year 2000 budget proposal to increase funding for global prevention and treatment of AIDS to \$100 million. As you know funding for the U.S. AIDS global outreach has increased very little in recent years, and amounts to a net reduction when inflation is taken into consideration. A modest increase of \$100 million in funding, however, would substantially improve our prospects for addressing the worldwide AIDS crisis.

Such an increase would be a cost-effective investment, which would save many lives and strengthen the ability of developing nations to more effectively manage their health care resources. It would also improve their ability to trade with the U.S. and help protect the growing global market for U.S. products. The global AIDS pandemic infects 16 thousand people every day, and has already cost an estimated \$500 billion. This figure will increase dramatically in the years ahead --- unless we embrace the challenge of making a meaningful investment in global AIDS prevention and treatment while we still can.

Mr. President, You have an impressive record of leadership in providing strong support of AIDS research, prevention and treatment programs. If you will now support this modest increase in U.S. funding for AIDS prevention and treatment, I believe we will have a chance to halt this deadly pandemic, save lives and improve the quality of life for millions of people.

Sincerely,

Coretta Scott King

1906 Sunderland Place, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202/530-8030 x3030
Fax: 202/530/8031
www.aidsaction.org

AIDS Action

Fax

To:	John Podesta	From:	Julio Abreu Associate Director of Government Affairs
Fax:	456-1907	Pages:	3, including cover
Phone:		Date:	07/08/99
Re:			

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July 5, 1999

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

cc: Sandy Thurman
Jena Roscoe

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and AIDS Action, we are writing to urge you to dramatically improve the US response to our global AIDS emergency. Since you took office in 1993, this global pandemic has exploded with a 300% increase in the number of new HIV infections. Current estimates are that 47 million people worldwide are already infected, and that number will more than double by the year 2005. AIDS now kills more people annually than any other infectious disease, and in many sub-Saharan African nations, one-quarter of all children have already been orphaned by AIDS.

On May 11, 1999, the World Health Organization announced that HIV/AIDS is now the "world's most deadly infectious disease", and holds fourth place among causes of death worldwide. Unfortunately, the US investment in global HIV prevention and AIDS care and support has fallen far short of keeping pace with this raging pandemic. While the death toll soars, the US global AIDS budget remains largely flat funded -- and has for years. If adjusted for inflation, this funding stagnation is actually equivalent to a 25% cut in real spending on our global AIDS effort. For a nation as wealthy as ours, so much more can and must be done.

We are thankful that you, Vice-President Gore, and the ONAP Director Sandy Thurman have traveled to Africa and witnessed the toll the epidemic has had on this continent. Average life spans in several African nations have now fallen to the shortest in the world -- under 40 years -- due to high AIDS mortality rates. It is also estimated that over two-thirds of the global AIDS population is located in Africa. We urge you to amend your FY2000 budget request and push for a \$100 million increase in our global AIDS effort. This new investment will put our nation on track toward a global AIDS program that begins to address the magnitude of this pandemic.

A minimum down payment of at least \$100 million would help stem the rising tide of HIV and bring some modest level of care and support to those who are suffering. We must immediately escalate our current efforts, and continue to do so until we have not only gained ground but begun to get ahead of the curve. This investment must be new money, rather than funds shifted from the strapped budgets of other essential development accounts. Health, education, child-survival and micro-finance are all

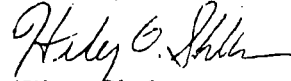
interconnected parts of a comprehensive human investment and AIDS strategy that must not be traded against each other.

Families are being shattered, economies are being decimated, and hundreds of millions of US dollars invested in broad-based development objectives are being obliterated by our failure to fully engage in the battle against AIDS. Every day 16,000 more people become HIV infected -- one every 5 seconds. The global AIDS epidemic has already cost an estimated \$500 billion. A new investment of \$100 million increase in our global AIDS programs would not only save lives, it will help to secure our goals of economic growth and political stability.

Last December on World AIDS Day, you envisioned a world without AIDS and spoke eloquently about our responsibilities as a leader in our global community. Last April, you traveled to Africa and called for new and vibrant partnerships with its many and varied nations. You are a Presidential pioneer in these endeavors. However, if we fail to put this nation's efforts on the war footing needed to combat the scourge of AIDS, it will surely devastate this vitally important legacy.

Every day counts. Together, let us seize this opportunity to secure your legacy of hope in Africa and around the world, through determined leadership in the battle against AIDS.

Sincerely,



Hilary Shelton

Director

NAACP Washington Bureau



Daniel Zingale

Executive Director

AIDS Action

cc: Jack Lew
John Podesta
Bruce Reed
Sandy Thurman

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ROBERT C. LARSON

June 8, 1999

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to urge you to dramatically increase the U.S. response to the global AIDS emergency. Since you took office in 1993, this global pandemic has exploded, with a 300% increase in the number of new HIV infections. Current estimates are that 47 million people worldwide are already infected, and that number will more than double by the year 2005. AIDS now kills more people annually than any other infectious disease, and in many sub-Saharan African nations, one-quarter of all children have already been orphaned by AIDS.

Unfortunately, the U.S. investment in global HIV prevention and AIDS care has fallen far short of keeping pace with this raging pandemic. While the death toll soars, the U.S. global AIDS budget remains largely flat funded – and has for years. If adjusted for inflation, this funding stagnation is actually equivalent to a 25% cut in real spending on our global AIDS effort. In a nation as wealthy as ours, this is unacceptable.

We have followed with interest the Presidential AIDS Mission to sub-Saharan Africa which you charged ONAP Director Sandy Thurman to lead this April. After directing the Administration and the Congress to bear witness to the ravages of AIDS, it is now time for concrete and bold action. On behalf of the Urban League movement, I urge you to amend your FY2000 budget request and push for a \$100 million increase in our global AIDS effort. This new investment will put our nation on track toward a global AIDS program that begins to address the magnitude of this pandemic.

If we hope to help stem the rising tide of HIV and bring some modest level of care and support to those who are suffering, we must immediately escalate our current efforts, and continue to do so until we have not only gained ground but begun to get ahead of the curve. A minimum down payment of at least \$100 million would do just that. This

President William J. Clinton

June 8, 1999

Page Two

investment must be new money, rather than funds shifted from the strapped budgets of other essential development accounts. Health, education, child-survival and micro-finance are all interconnected parts of a comprehensive human investment and AIDS strategy that must not be traded against each other.

Families are being shattered, economies are being decimated, and hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars invested in broad-based development objectives are being obliterated by our failure to fully engage in the battle against AIDS. The global AIDS epidemic has already cost an estimated \$500 billion.

Last December on World AIDS Day, you envisioned a world without AIDS and spoke eloquently about our responsibilities as a leader in our global community. One year ago in April, you traveled to Africa and called for new and vibrant partnerships with its many and varied nations. You are a Presidential pioneer in these endeavors, and we applaud you. However, if we fail to put this nation's AIDS effort on the war footing needed to combat this scourge, it will surely devastate this vitally important legacy.

AIDS is a plague of biblical proportions. Every day 16,000 more people become HIV infected – one every 5 seconds. Everyday we wait, children and families pay the price. A new investment of \$100 million in our global AIDS programs would not only save lives, it will help to secure our goals of economic growth and political stability.

Every day counts. I urge you to seize this opportunity to secure your legacy of hope in Africa and around the world, through determined leadership in the battle against AIDS, and the commitment of resources needed to win this war.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hugh B. Price". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Hugh" being more prominent.

Hugh B. Price
President

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2101

June 11, 1999

Mr. Jack Lew
Director
Office of Management and Budget
252 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Jack:

According to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "AIDS in Africa is a plague of biblical proportions. It is a holy war that we must win." In Africa today, someone becomes infected with HIV every 5 seconds, and by the year 2010, more than 40 million children will be orphaned by AIDS. It is hard to overestimate the magnitude of this growing human disaster.

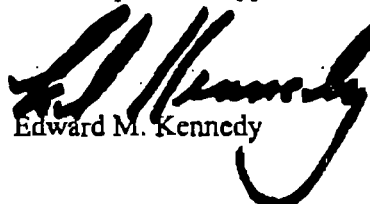
Tragically, AIDS in Africa is much more than a health crisis -- it is an economic and security crisis as well. AIDS is striking down skilled workers, pushing families into poverty, driving up the cost of doing business, and steadily chipping away at the GNP of a growing number of African nations. If we are serious about promoting growth and opportunity in Africa -- a more aggressive approach to the global war on AIDS is essential.

I commend the Administration for drawing much needed attention to the issue of AIDS in Africa and to the global AIDS epidemic generally. By sending a Presidential Mission to the frontlines of the battle against AIDS, you have enlisted America in this vitally important effort. Millions of lives and futures are at stake. The time for us to act is now, before it's too late.

As you review the findings of this recent Presidential Mission and consider options for addressing this crisis, I strongly urge you to include a substantial increase in funding for the USAID global AIDS program. While HIV and AIDS have exploded in recent years, the global AIDS budget has remained level funded. A distinguished list of national and international organizations -- including AIDS Action, Save the Children, the National Urban League, and the Foundation for International Community Assistance -- have called on the Administration to support a \$100 million increase in the global AIDS program for FY2000. I strongly support this increase.

The Administration deserves our gratitude for sounding the alarm on the growing emergency of AIDS in Africa. It is a crisis for children and families and communities that cannot be ignored. Thank you for your time, attention, and commitment. I look forward to working closely with you to win the global battle against AIDS.

With respect and appreciation,



Edward M. Kennedy

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

June 9, 1999

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Once again, thank you for your leadership on your trip to Africa, which established a good foundation for stronger ties between the United States and the countries of Africa. One issue which must be more aggressively addressed as we build these ties is the impact of the AIDS epidemic in Africa.

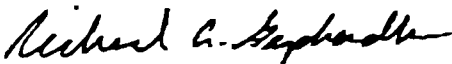
We commend you for sending a Presidential Mission to sub-Saharan Africa in April to investigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on children. We support the efforts by Sandra Thurman, Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, to raise awareness of the growing global AIDS crisis. But, more must be done to address AIDS in Africa.

Across the continent, AIDS is devastating entire communities and undermining long-term investments in human and economic development. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 23 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, 4 million are newly infected every year, and each day, 5,500 men, women, and children die of AIDS. It is projected that there will be 40 million orphans in Africa by the year 2010 because of the AIDS epidemic.

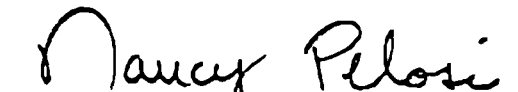
In light of the epidemic's magnitude, we believe that the Administration's FY'2000 budget request for global AIDS is insufficient. We urge you to amend your budget request to respond to this crisis. While we are aware of the severe funding constraints for international affairs created by the Republican budget plan, we nonetheless support a substantial increase for global AIDS. Such an increase cannot come at the expense of other infectious disease programs. We urge you to take bold action and hope you will use the opportunity of the release of your upcoming report on AIDS in Africa to call for a significant increase in the global AIDS program and to make such an increase an Administration priority.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns. We look forward to working with you on providing the needed funds to meet the challenges of the global AIDS epidemic.

Sincerely,



RICHARD GEPHARDT, M.C.



NANCY PELOSI, M.C.

cc: John Podesta
Jack Lew

September 10, 1999

The Honorable Ted Stevens
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ted:

We are writing to urge you to approve the Administration's budget amendment, which seeks an additional \$100 million in FY2000 for the U.S. Government investment in the global battle against AIDS, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa. This is the minimum amount of funding that should be provided to assist in addressing the magnitude of this rapidly escalating pandemic.

The funds the Administration is seeking will be spent on prevention, care and treatment, AIDS orphans, and infrastructure. Of the additional funds, \$55 million will be provided in the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill for Child Survival and Disease programs at USAID and for food aid to families and communities caring for affected children and orphans. \$35 million will be provided in the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations bill to enhance surveillance capabilities to track the spread of HIV, to provide technical assistance and training for development of HIV prevention activities, and to provide technical assistance and training as countries develop home and community-based treatment. The remaining \$10 million will be provided in the Department of Defense Appropriations bill to support the development of a program to conduct HIV prevention education activities in conjunction with the Department's ongoing training, exercises, and humanitarian assistance activities with African militaries. The Administration has identified offsets for the additional \$100 million it is seeking to combat AIDS globally.

HIV/AIDS in Africa is a global emergency unlike anything the public health community has witnessed this century. In the last ten years, 12 million people in sub-Saharan Africa have died of AIDS, one-quarter of them children. Sub-Saharan Africa is home to only one-tenth of the world's population, but more than 80% of AIDS deaths worldwide occur there. The daily death toll from AIDS there is already 5,500 and is projected to reach 13,000 by 2005. In the next ten years, more people will die in sub-Saharan Africa from AIDS than the total number of casualties in all wars of the 20th Century combined.

When the AIDS pandemic is combined with the unrelenting poverty and staggering debt that plague the nations of sub-Saharan Africa, the impact is

devastating. Decades of progress in promoting economic development, reducing infant mortality, and increasing life expectancy are being reversed. More than eight million children have already been orphaned by AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa, and in the next decade, more than 40 million children will be orphaned by AIDS worldwide.

The effect of the pandemic on the African workforce is also enormous. AIDS directly undercuts productivity by increasing absenteeism, and it raises the cost of business through increased costs of recruiting and training new employees as experienced employees become disabled or die. Higher costs also threaten foreign investment in Africa, which is essential for future economic development. Some companies in sub-Saharan Africa are already hiring two employees for each skilled job because they assume one will die of AIDS. In 1994, the Indeni Petroleum Refinery in Zambia reportedly spent more on AIDS-related costs than it declared in profits.

AIDS is also undermining military forces in sub-Saharan Africa and posing a threat to security and stability. HIV infection rates are already 40% in some African military forces. Forces weakened by disease are less capable of defending their nations, maintaining order, or protecting citizens. High infection rates among senior officers could result in rapid turnover. In countries where the military plays a central role in government, such turnover could weaken the central government's authority. In countries where a political transition is underway, instability in the military and security forces could undermine the transition process.

While new therapies have begun to give us hope in the fight against AIDS in the United States, the cost of these treatments is prohibitive for developing nations where the epidemic is raging out of control. During the past six years, there has been a 300% increase in the annual cases of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. Yet, U.S. funding for AIDS programs overseas has remained level at \$125 million. When inflation is taken into account, this level of funding is actually a 25% decrease.

The United States is the most developed nation in the world, but our health care system, research capacity, and social services have all been pushed to the limit by AIDS. Developing nations will be unable to turn the tide on this pandemic if basic health care is out of reach for most of their citizens. Fragile health care systems in sub-Saharan Africa are already buckling beneath the weight of the increasing number of people with AIDS. In Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Cote d'Ivoire, for example, the World Bank estimates that people with AIDS occupy 50-80% of all beds in urban hospitals. Without a dramatic increase in funding, the epidemic will only result in more misery and death in the region.

Fully funding the Administration's request for an additional \$100 million to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic is a vital first step towards turning the tide on this catastrophe. The nations of sub-Saharan Africa are among the poorest in the world. Prevention is effective, but it costs money. Treatment, care, and medicine also cost money.

The funding that the U.S. has already provided to combat AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa has been effective. In partnership with Uganda and other donors, the U.S. invested \$46 million in HIV prevention and care in Uganda and helped cut HIV rates by more than half. In Kenya, our efforts contributed to averting 10,000 HIV infections from 1991 through 1994. American efforts have helped to develop successful community care approaches for the orphans in Malawi, Zambia, and Uganda. Additionally, the U.S. supported development of low-cost methods for detecting HIV antibodies that are currently being used in Cameroon and Zimbabwe.

Unfortunately, the pandemic is outpacing the resources currently provided by the United States and the international community. Enormous pain, suffering, and death have already resulted for the African continent. We know how to prevent the spread of AIDS, and we strongly urge you to provide the additional \$100 million that the Administration is seeking to accomplish that goal more effectively.

Sincerely,

Edward M. Kennedy