

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2584

To establish a program to evaluate HIV/AIDS programs in order to improve accountability, increase transparency, and ensure the delivery of evidence-based services.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 31, 2008

Mr. REID (for Mrs. CLINTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To establish a program to evaluate HIV/AIDS programs in order to improve accountability, increase transparency, and ensure the delivery of evidence-based services.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “PEPFAR Account-
5 ability and Transparency Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EVALUATION OF HIV/AIDS PROGRAMS.**

7 Subtitle A of title III of the United States Leadership
8 Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of

1 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7631 et seq.) is amended by adding at
 2 the end the following:

3 **“SEC. 308. PROGRAM MONITORING, OPERATIONS RE-**
 4 **SEARCH, AND IMPACT EVALUATION RE-**
 5 **SEARCH.**

6 “(a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Coordinator of
 7 United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/
 8 AIDS Globally (referred to in this section as the ‘Coordi-
 9 nator’) shall establish a mechanism to evaluate global
 10 HIV/AIDS programs financed by the United States Gov-
 11 ernment in order to improve accountability, increase
 12 transparency, and ensure the delivery of evidence-based
 13 services. Such mechanism shall include program moni-
 14 toring, operations research, and impact evaluation re-
 15 search.

16 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

17 “(1) IMPACT EVALUATION RESEARCH.—The
 18 term ‘impact evaluation research’ means the applica-
 19 tion of research methods and statistical analysis to
 20 measure the extent to which a change in a popu-
 21 lation-based outcome can be attributed to program
 22 intervention instead of other environmental factors.

23 “(2) OPERATIONS RESEARCH.—The term ‘oper-
 24 ations research’ means the application of social
 25 science research methods and statistical analysis to

1 judge, compare, and improve policies and program
2 outcomes, from the earliest stages of defining and
3 designing programs through their development and
4 implementation.

5 “(3) PROGRAM MONITORING.—The term ‘pro-
6 gram monitoring’ means the collection, analysis, and
7 use of routine program data to determine how well
8 a program is carried out and how much the program
9 costs.

10 “(4) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The term ‘eligible
11 entities’ means public or private organizations, in-
12 cluding academic institutions, that have documented
13 experience in analyzing and evaluating the effective-
14 ness of health, development, or other international
15 aid programs.

16 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—The Coordinator shall use
17 amounts provided under this section, either directly or in-
18 directly through grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
19 ments to eligible entities, to conduct program monitoring,
20 operations research, and impact evaluation research re-
21 lated to programs authorized under this Act. Such activi-
22 ties shall be conducted to—

23 “(1) improve the coverage, efficiency, effective-
24 ness, quality, and accessibility of services provided
25 under this Act;

1 “(2) establish the cost-effectiveness of program
2 models;

3 “(3) assess the population-level impact of pro-
4 grams implemented, including the impact of pro-
5 grams on women, children, and other at-risk or vul-
6 nerable populations;

7 “(4) ensure the transparency and accountability
8 of services provided under this Act;

9 “(5) disseminate and promote the utilization of
10 evaluation findings, lessons, and best practices in the
11 implementation of the programs receiving financial
12 assistance under this Act;

13 “(6) encourage and evaluate innovative service
14 models and strategies to optimize the delivery of
15 care, treatment, and prevention programs financed
16 by the United States Government; and

17 “(7) strengthen ongoing program monitoring
18 and enhance program quality through routine pro-
19 gram evaluations, such as midterm and final pro-
20 gram evaluations.

21 “(d) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
22 of the enactment of the PEPFAR Accountability and
23 Transparency Act, the Coordinator shall submit a report
24 to Congress that describes the resources provided under
25 this Act for program monitoring, operations research, and

1 impact evaluation research during the 5-year period end-
2 ing on September 30, 2008, that describes—

3 “(1) the projects for which resources were obli-
4 gated and the outcomes of those projects;

5 “(2) the program improvements, including cost
6 or other resource savings, which have been made as
7 a result of program monitoring, operations research,
8 and impact evaluation research;

9 “(3) how program monitoring, operations re-
10 search, and impact evaluation research priorities are
11 determined and how input from external experts is
12 incorporated; and

13 “(4) the process used to allocate funding for
14 implementation of program monitoring, operations
15 research, and impact evaluation research.

16 “(e) STRATEGIC PLAN.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
18 the date of the enactment of the PEPFAR Account-
19 ability and Transparency Act, the Coordinator shall
20 develop a 5-year strategic plan for program moni-
21 toring, operations research, and impact evaluation
22 research.

23 “(2) PLAN ELEMENTS.—The plan developed
24 under this subsection shall include—

1 “(A) the amount of funding provided for
2 program monitoring, operations research, and
3 impact evaluation research under this Act avail-
4 able through fiscal year 2009;

5 “(B) strategies to address the goals de-
6 scribed in subsection (c);

7 “(C) priorities for program monitoring, op-
8 erations research, and impact evaluation re-
9 search and a time line for completion of activi-
10 ties associated with such priorities; and

11 “(D) other information that the Coordi-
12 nator determines to be necessary.

13 “(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the plan
14 under this subsection, the Coordinator shall consider
15 a range of research priorities, including research
16 in—

17 “(A) preventing new HIV infections by re-
18 ducing behavioral risks for HIV transmission,
19 particularly in at-risk and vulnerable popu-
20 lations, including—

21 “(i) delaying sexual debut;

22 “(ii) reducing the number of sexual
23 partners;

24 “(iii) practicing abstinence, fidelity,
25 and monogamy;

1 “(iv) using condoms, other effective
2 protection methods that have been devel-
3 oped and are available, and female
4 condoms; and

5 “(v) meeting the needs of discordant
6 couples;

7 “(B) improving health care delivery sys-
8 tems and HIV/AIDS-related policies;

9 “(C) preventing mother-to-child trans-
10 mission, improving early identification of in-
11 fected children, and reducing the spread of HIV
12 infections, particularly in women and girls;

13 “(D) reducing HIV-related mortality and
14 morbidity of HIV;

15 “(E) treating adults and children infected
16 by HIV more effectively, including establishing
17 better approaches for increasing access to treat-
18 ment and increasing and sustaining treatment
19 adherence;

20 “(F) addressing the vulnerabilities of mar-
21 ried and unmarried women and girls to HIV in-
22 fection, including those who are victims of rape,
23 sexual violence, and coercion;

1 “(G) integrating family planning into HIV/
2 AIDS prevention, care, and treatment strate-
3 gies and services;

4 “(H) encouraging men to be responsible
5 for their sexual behavior and to respect women,
6 including the reduction and elimination of sex-
7 ual violence and coercion;

8 “(I) developing models for scaling up HIV
9 counseling, testing with informed consent, and
10 other approaches that promote risk reduction
11 and access to care and treatment;

12 “(J) addressing risks associated with sub-
13 stance use;

14 “(K) promoting the most effective models
15 for scaling up care and treatment access;

16 “(L) ensuring a safe blood supply;

17 “(M) improving injection safety, including
18 eliminating unnecessary injections and pro-
19 moting sterile injection practices and tech-
20 nologies;

21 “(N) improving health care workers’ occu-
22 pational health and safety;

23 “(O) strengthening hospice and palliative
24 care;

1 “(P) scaling up the provision of prevention,
2 care and treatment services to children, includ-
3 ing those orphaned by HIV/AIDS;

4 “(Q) preventing HIV through male cir-
5 cumcision; and

6 “(R) other research that the Coordinator
7 determines to be necessary.

8 “(4) CONSULTATION.—In developing the stra-
9 tegic plan and implementing, disseminating, and
10 promoting the use of program monitoring, oper-
11 ations research, and impact evaluation research, the
12 Coordinator shall consult with representatives of—

13 “(A) the National Institutes of Health;

14 “(B) the United States Agency for Inter-
15 national Development;

16 “(C) the Centers for Disease Control and
17 Prevention;

18 “(D) the Agency for Healthcare Research
19 and Quality;

20 “(E) the Department of Health and
21 Human Services;

22 “(F) the Department of Labor;

23 “(G) other Federal agencies engaged in
24 global HIV/AIDS programs;

1 “(H) multilateral structures, such as the
2 United Nations and the Global Fund To Fight
3 AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

4 “(I) national governments of foreign coun-
5 tries in which programs under this Act are ad-
6 ministered;

7 “(J) organizations implementing pro-
8 grammatic activities under this Act; and

9 “(K) other organizations with expertise in
10 monitoring and evaluating international HIV/
11 AIDS programs.

12 “(5) MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT.—The
13 Coordinator shall—

14 “(A) not later than 180 days after the date
15 of the enactment of the PEPFAR Account-
16 ability and Transparency Act, hold a public
17 meeting at which the public may present its
18 views on the current needs and gaps in program
19 monitoring, operations research, and impact
20 evaluation research;

21 “(B) during the 30-day period following
22 the public meeting held pursuant to subpara-
23 graph (A), collect written comments from the
24 public; and

1 “(C) publish the comments received pursu-
2 ant to subparagraph (B) on the Office of the
3 Global AIDS Coordinator’s Internet Web site.

4 “(6) REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Coor-
5 dinator shall—

6 “(A) not later than 1 year after the date
7 of the enactment of the PEPFAR Account-
8 ability and Transparency Act, present the stra-
9 tegic plan developed under this subsection to
10 the appropriate congressional committees;

11 “(B) publish the strategic plan in the Fed-
12 eral Register and on the Office of the Global
13 AIDS Coordinator’s Internet Web site;

14 “(C) during the 60-day period following
15 the publication of the plan under subparagraph
16 (B), solicit written comments on the plan from
17 the public;

18 “(D) hold a meeting at which the public is
19 given an opportunity to present its views on the
20 plan; and

21 “(E) after consideration of the views and
22 comments received from the public, make any
23 necessary revisions to the plan.

24 “(f) BEST PRACTICES REPORT.—The Coordinator
25 shall annually publish a best practices report that high-

1 lights the programs that have the potential for translation,
2 particularly at a low cost, across global AIDS programs,
3 including those that focus on both generalized and local-
4 ized epidemics, receiving financial assistance from the
5 United States.

6 “(g) DISSEMINATION OF FINDINGS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Coordinator shall dis-
8 seminate the full findings of the multiple operations
9 research and impact evaluation research and pro-
10 gram level monitoring efforts on the Office of the
11 Global AIDS Coordinator’s Internet website in order
12 to improve transparency and public availability of in-
13 formation about operations research and impact
14 evaluation research.

15 “(2) DISSEMINATION GUIDANCE.—The Coordi-
16 nator shall develop guidance to ensure timely sub-
17 mission and dissemination of all impact evaluation
18 research, operations research, and program moni-
19 toring findings. The time lines and processes in-
20 cluded in such guidance shall take into account the
21 publication process for peer-reviewed scientific or
22 academic journals and the discussion of such re-
23 search findings at a scientific meeting or any other
24 public or private forum, so as to maintain the sci-

1 entific process without unduly restricting dissemina-
2 tion of information.

3 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In ad-
4 dition to funds made available under section 401(a), there
5 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
6 necessary to carry out this section.”.

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