

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2144

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to codify the cooperative agreement, known as the Health Technologies program, under which the United States Agency for International Development supports the development of technologies for global health, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 3, 2011

Mr. SIRES (for himself, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. MOORE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. RUSH, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. DICKS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to codify the cooperative agreement, known as the Health Technologies program, under which the United States Agency for International Development supports the development of technologies for global health, and for other purposes.

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 “21st Century Global
5 Health Technology Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) Applied research and development is a crit-
4 ical component of United States leadership in global
5 health. Research and innovation can help to break
6 the cycle of aid dependency by providing sustainable
7 solutions to long-term problems. Research and devel-
8 opment for global health is crucial for meeting new
9 and emerging challenges, creating efficiencies,
10 strengthening health systems, shifting tasks and
11 strengthening workforces, and increasing access to
12 health services for the most vulnerable. Research
13 suggests that advances in health and medical tech-
14 nologies have been the major drivers behind massive
15 improvements in health worldwide over the past cen-
16 tury, resulting in an average increase in life
17 expectancies of 21 years in low- and middle-income
18 countries between 1960 and 2002.

19 (2) Because of its presence in the field, the
20 United States Agency for International Development
21 (USAID) is uniquely placed to assess local health
22 conditions, then partner with public and private
23 stakeholders to ensure the development and timely
24 introduction and scale-up of tools that are culturally
25 acceptable, address serious and all-too-common
26 health problems, and contribute to the strengthening

1 of health systems. In a recent report to Congress,
2 USAID calls health research “integral” to its “abil-
3 ity to achieve its health and development objectives
4 worldwide” and states that innovation through re-
5 search allows the agency “to develop and introduce
6 affordable health products and practices and con-
7 tribute to policies appropriate for addressing health-
8 related concerns in the developing world”. In 2006,
9 USAID outlined a five-year health research strategy:
10 “Report to Congress: Health-Related Research and
11 Development Activities at USAID (HRRD), May
12 2006”, with a timeline through 2010.

13 (3) Congress notes the interrelated initiatives
14 that USAID has taken to advance science, tech-
15 nology, and innovation for development, including
16 the Grand Development Challenges, the Innovation
17 Fund, Development Innovation Ventures, the Devel-
18 opment Lab, and the Innovation Fellowship.

19 (4) Applied research and development at
20 USAID—

21 (A) facilitates public-private collaboration
22 in the development of global health tech-
23 nologies;

24 (B) leverages public and private sector
25 support for early stage research and develop-

1 ment of health technologies to encourage pri-
2 vate sector investment in late-stage technology
3 development and product introduction in devel-
4 oping countries;

5 (C) benefits the United States economy by
6 investing in the growing United States global
7 health technology sector, which—

8 (i) provides skilled jobs for American
9 workers;

10 (ii) creates opportunities for United
11 States businesses in the development and
12 production of new technologies; and

13 (iii) enhances United States competi-
14 tiveness in the increasingly technological
15 and knowledge-based global economy; and

16 (D) enhances United States national secu-
17 rity by—

18 (i) reducing the risk of pandemic dis-
19 ease; and

20 (ii) contributing to economic develop-
21 ment and stability in developing countries.

22 (5) Investments by the United States in afford-
23 able, appropriate health technologies, such as med-
24 ical devices for maternal, newborn, and child care;
25 new vaccines; new vaccine technologies and delivery

1 tools; safe injection devices; diagnostic tests for in-
2 fectious diseases; new tools for water, sanitation,
3 and nutrition; multipurpose prevention technologies;
4 information systems and mobile health and informa-
5 tion systems; and innovative disease prevention
6 strategies—

7 (A) reduce the risk of disease transmission;

8 (B) accelerate access to life-saving global
9 health interventions for the world’s poor;

10 (C) reduce the burden on local health sys-
11 tems; and

12 (D) have been found by the United States
13 Government and the World Health Organiza-
14 tion to result in significant cost savings for de-
15 velopment assistance funds.

16 (6) Product development partnerships (PDPs)
17 are one model that is successfully accelerating re-
18 search to benefit the developing world. PDPs are
19 non-profit, nongovernmental entities that work to
20 accelerate the development of new tools to fight dis-
21 eases in resource-poor settings. Typically, PDPs
22 manage resources and partnerships from across pub-
23 lic, private, and philanthropic sectors to drive the
24 development of a full pipeline of potential new prod-
25 ucts that could save and improve lives in the devel-

1 oping world. USAID has played a significant role in
2 advancing the PDP model through its financial sup-
3 port. Over the past decade, the achievements of
4 PDPs have become increasingly successful at ad-
5 vancing new products through the development pipe-
6 line towards registration, product introduction, and
7 use.

8 (7) Through a cooperative agreement, known as
9 the Health Technologies program, USAID supports
10 the development of technologies that—

11 (A) maximize the limited resources avail-
12 able for global health; and

13 (B) ensure that products and medicines
14 developed for use in low-resource settings reach
15 the people that need such products and medi-
16 cines.

17 Through the Health Technologies program, 85 tech-
18 nologies have been invented, designed, developed, or
19 co-developed, with many of these technologies moved
20 to global use and billions of units used worldwide.
21 Over its 25-year history, more than 95 private-sector
22 collaborators have been involved in the Health Tech-
23 nologies program, matching USAID dollars two to
24 one.

1 (8) USAID’s translational research is com-
2 plementary to the work of other agencies:

3 (A) The Quadrennial Development and Di-
4 plomacy Review (QDDR) proposes to transition
5 leadership of the Global Health Initiative (GHI)
6 to USAID with a target date of the end of
7 2012. A core principle of the GHI is “Research
8 and innovation”.

9 (B) The Presidential Policy Directive on
10 Global Development identifies innovation as
11 contributing to the resolution of “long-standing
12 development challenges”.

13 (C) The QDDR affirms that “US leader-
14 ship in science and innovation is often linked to
15 our ability to contribute to a safer, healthier,
16 and more stable world.”.

17 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

18 The purpose of this Act is to codify the cooperative
19 agreement, known as the Health Technologies program,
20 in effect as of the date of the enactment of this Act, under
21 which the United States Agency for International Develop-
22 ment supports the development of technologies for global
23 health to—

24 (1) improve global health;

1 (2) reduce maternal, newborn, and child mor-
2 tality rates;

3 (3) reverse the incidence of HIV/AIDS, malaria,
4 tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases;

5 (4) reduce the burden of chronic diseases; and

6 (5) support research and development that is
7 consistent with a global development strategy and
8 other related strategies developed by USAID.

9 **SEC. 4. CODIFICATION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES PRO-**
10 **GRAM.**

11 Section 107 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22
12 U.S.C. 2151e) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(c) HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM.—(1) There
15 is established in the United States Agency for Inter-
16 national Development (USAID) a health technologies pro-
17 gram (referred to in this subsection as the ‘program’).

18 “(2) The program shall develop, advance, and intro-
19 duce affordable, available, and appropriate and primarily
20 late-stage technologies specifically designed to—

21 “(A) improve the health and nutrition of popu-
22 lations in developing countries;

23 “(B) reduce maternal, newborn, and child mor-
24 tality in such countries; and

1 “(C) improve the diagnosis, prevention, and re-
2 duction of disease, especially HIV/AIDS, malaria,
3 tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases, in such
4 countries.

5 “(3) The program shall be carried out under a coop-
6 erative agreement between USAID and one or more insti-
7 tutions with a successful record of—

8 “(A) advancing the technologies described in
9 paragraph (2); and

10 “(B) integrating practical field experience into
11 the research and development process in order to in-
12 troduce the most appropriate technologies.

13 “(4) The provisions of this subsection codify the coop-
14 erative agreement, known as the Health Technologies pro-
15 gram, in effect as of the date of the enactment of this
16 subsection, under which USAID supports the development
17 of technologies for global health. The provisions of this
18 subsection do not establish a new cooperative agreement
19 or program for such purposes.”.

20 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AC-**
21 **TIVITIES AT USAID.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the United
23 States Agency for International Development (referred to
24 in this subsection as “USAID”) shall submit to Congress

1 an annual report on research and development activities
2 at USAID.

3 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-
4 quired by subsection (b) shall describe—

5 (1) updates on its strategy for using research
6 funds to stimulate the development and introduction
7 of key products;

8 (2) USAID’s collaborations and coordination
9 with other Federal departments and agencies in sup-
10 port of translational and applied global health re-
11 search and development;

12 (3) its investments for the fiscal year in science,
13 technology, and innovation;

14 (4) how these technologies and research prod-
15 ucts complement the work being done by other Fed-
16 eral departments and agencies, if applicable; and

17 (5) technologies and research products that
18 have been introduced into field trials or use.

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