

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 176

Commending the progress made by anti-tuberculosis programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2011

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. TOWNS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Commending the progress made by anti-tuberculosis programs.

Whereas tuberculosis (hereafter in this preamble referred to as “TB”) is the second leading fatal global infectious disease behind HIV/AIDS, claiming 1,700,000 lives each year;

Whereas the global TB pandemic and the spread of drug resistant TB present a persistent public health threat to the United States;

Whereas according to 2009 data of the World Health Organization, 5 percent of all new TB cases are drug resistant;

Whereas TB is the leading killer of people with HIV/AIDS in the developing world;

Whereas TB is the third leading killer of adult women, and the stigma associated with TB disproportionately affects women, causing them to delay seeking care and interfering with treatment adherence;

Whereas the Institute of Medicine (IOM) found that the resurgence of TB in the U.S. between 1985 and 1992 was caused by cuts in TB control funding and the spread of HIV/AIDS;

Whereas, although the numbers of TB cases in the United States continue to decline, progress towards TB elimination has slowed, and it is a disease that does not recognize borders;

Whereas New York City had to spend over \$1,000,000,000 to control a multi-drug resistant TB outbreak between 1989 and 1993;

Whereas an extensively drug resistant form of TB, known as XDR-TB (hereafter referred to in this preamble as “XDR-TB”), is very difficult and expensive to treat and has high and rapid fatality rates, especially among HIV/AIDS patients;

Whereas the United States has had more than 83 cases of XDR-TB over the last decade;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated in 2009 that it costs \$483,000 to treat a single case of XDR-TB;

Whereas African-Americans are 8 times more likely to have TB than Caucasians, and significant disparities exist among other United States minorities, including Native Americans, Asian-Americans, and Hispanic-Americans;

Whereas, although drugs, diagnostics and vaccines for TB exist, these technologies are antiquated and are increasingly inadequate for controlling the global epidemic;

Whereas the most commonly used TB diagnostic in the world, sputum microscopy, is more than 100 years old and lacks sensitivity to detect TB in most HIV/AIDS patients and in children;

Whereas current tests to detect drug resistance take at least 1 month to complete and faster drug susceptibility tests must be developed to stop the spread of drug resistant TB;

Whereas the TB vaccine, BCG, provides some protection to children, but has little or no efficacy in preventing pulmonary TB in adults;

Whereas there is also a critical need for new TB drugs that can safely be taken concurrently with antiretroviral therapy for HIV;

Whereas enactment of the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 and the Comprehensive TB Elimination Act provide an historic United States commitment to the global eradication of TB, including to the successful treatment of 4,500,000 new TB patients and 90,000 new multi-drug resistant (MDR) TB cases by 2013, while providing additional treatment through coordinated multilateral efforts;

Whereas the United States Agency for International Development provides financial and technical assistance to nearly 40 highly-burdened TB countries and supports the development of new diagnostic and treatment tools, and is au-

thorized to support research to develop new vaccines to combat TB;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, working in partnership with States and territories of the United States, directs the national TB elimination program and essential national TB surveillance, technical assistance, prevention activities and supports the development of new diagnostic, treatment and prevention tools to combat TB;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health, through its many institutes and centers, plays the leading role in basic and clinical research into the identification, treatment and prevention of TB;

Whereas the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria provides two-thirds of all international financing for TB programs worldwide and has supported the detection and treatment of 7,700,000 cases of TB; and

Whereas March 24, 2011, is World Tuberculosis Day, a day that commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacteria that causes tuberculosis: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals of World TB Day to
3 raise awareness about tuberculosis;

4 (2) commends the progress made by United
5 States-led anti-tuberculosis programs; and

6 (3) reaffirms its commitment to global tuber-
7 culosis control made through the Tom Lantos and

1 Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership
2 Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Re-
3 authorization Act of 2008.

