

reauthorization is essential. My legislation would help immigrant victims in my district and across the country escape from violent and abusive households. Battered immigrant women deserve an escape from abuse that protects their rights and keeps them united with their children.

Today this House has a chance to fight against violence against women and protect all immigrant victims of violence. I urge every Member in this House to join this fight.

INTRODUCTION STATEMENT  
PASSENGER SAFETY ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 30, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to return to private airline screeners, now is the time to continue to focus on passenger safety.

Last November, airports were given the option to start the process to opt-out of having Transportation Security Administration (TSA) screeners in favor of hiring private screeners. Thankfully, no airport has opted out. If this is allowed to happen, it will be a step backwards in airline security.

TSA has only been in existence for a few years and has certainly suffered through some growing pains. Because of this, we should be focused on ensuring the success of TSA rather than adding the new challenge of privatization that could jeopardize their future and potentially endanger the security of airline passengers. That is why I am introducing the Passenger Safety Act which will repeal the opt-out language in the law that created the TSA. I urge my colleagues to support this important initiative to protect passenger safety.

THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL  
HIV TESTING DAY

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 30, 2005*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, HIV testing is imperative. There is not much else to be said. This global epidemic has affected communities and families around the world. In Chicago, there are about 40,000 new cases each year. There are thousands of families struggling with this fact.

Nationally, nearly one million people are infected with HIV and nearly 30 percent are not aware of it. The highest rates of new infection are with women, especially the women of the African-American community. Sixty-seven percent of new cases are Black women, although women make up only 23 percent of new cases overall. This is a travesty.

We must also remember that this is a global issue that affects the lives of members of our international village. A recent ad campaign in Russia warns, "Close your eyes on HIV today and you might miss the people closest to you tomorrow." This warning, unfortunately, rings true in the lives of many people today. Globally, nearly 40 million men, women and children are infected with the virus that causes AIDS.

We in Congress have taken great legislative strides to fight this epidemic, but we are only 435 faces. It is up to the citizens of this great Nation and nations around the world to stand up and join the fight. This is why June 27th has been designated as National HIV Testing Day. Take advantage of it.

Some people say they don't have time. The fastest method of determining one's status is through rapid testing. It takes about 20 minutes. There are 1,440 minutes in a day. Clinics tend to be open for 8 hour days. If one person went to get tested every 20 minutes at one clinic on June 27th, then there would be 24 people that know their status. The number of United States registered hospitals totals 5,764. If one person went to get tested every 20 minutes at each of these hospitals, on June 27th, 138,336 people would know their status. Imagine if this were a global initiative. To the people who think that HIV testing is a long and time-consuming process, I say, we don't have time to waste.

Mr. Speaker, we don't have time to lose another life. We don't have time for silence or apathy. Tell a friend or family member. Remind them how urgent it is to grasp this moment. Take advantage of this day. Seize it. Get tested.

INTRODUCING ANSWER AFRICA'S  
CALL ACT

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 30, 2005*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, America has before it a rare opportunity of historic and humanitarian proportion. The opportunity is so great, and the outcome so important, that we cannot, we must not, we will not see this as a Democrat or Republican issue. When it comes to meeting the challenge to end poverty in Africa, there is only America united.

The President can assume command at the upcoming G-8 Summit in Scotland with bold steps to unite nations in this World of One War—defeating the global enemy of poverty—which starves, maims and kills tens of thousands, mercilessly and indiscriminately, in Africa every day.

Leaders of the Group of Eight industrialized countries will meet in Scotland to discuss making a long-term, multilateral commitment to fight poverty in sub Saharan Africa.

Let America today shine brighter than the torch on the Statue of Liberty. Let America unite mankind to save humankind. Let the President stand up and demand—not discuss—action.

Demand action, not because we are arrogant, but because we see the pain in Africa's faces and rush in compelled to act. Demand action, not because we are bullies, but because we are burdened by the grief of a billion people starving on one dollar a day. Demand action, not because we are the mightiest nation on earth but because the rivers of Africa flow with tears of sorrow over the dead and dying. And no amount of weaponry can stop the pain, only people can.

The President can unify the world to fight this just and noble war against disease, malnutrition, and economic injustice in sub Saharan Africa.

The richest nations on earth, which throughout history placed self interest ahead of Africa's interest cannot undo the past, but can make a bold commitment to the future. In one defining moment of courage and conviction, the President can unite the world to commit the financial and humanitarian resources that can begin to wipe out poverty in Africa.

Mr. Chairman, more and more African oil fuels the engines of our global economy. The industrialized nations have a long history of extracting Africa's natural resources to fulfill our desires. From bauxite to diamonds, and from copper to cocoa, the world has fed off the resources of Africa, even as Africans starved before our eyes.

While the world benefits from raw commodities found in Africa, nations, including the United States, have policies that keep Africans from adding value to these commodities that would benefit their continent and people. Rich nations benefit more from African materials than the Africans themselves do.

For far too long our farm and trade regimes have hindered African development and injured the African people in countless ways. We have made progress improving trade laws in recent years; we are negotiating at the World Trade Organization now for ways to reform our farm programs which currently distort trade and deny opportunities to African farmers struggling to compete in a global economy. We have difficult work ahead on farm reforms, and more to do to provide access to our markets for African farm products. Many of Africa's agricultural products still face steep, insurmountable and unacceptable tariffs.

But reducing tariffs and farm subsidies imposed by rich nations cannot begin to help Africa overcome the magnitude of its economic and humanitarian crisis. Investments in health and infrastructure are vitally necessary. We can help with these investments. And we can help in ways that improve outcomes for Africans.

I am talking about the immediate and critical need for money in the form of assistance and financial aid, and let me say something that may shock some of you. I agree with the Heritage Foundation—not exactly a Democratic organization—when it points to the mis-steps and mishaps of the past. But haven't we learned from those mistakes? Weren't many of those mistakes made within the context of Cold War politics with priorities different than those we seek today?

There were times when the best of intentions by nations, including America, ended up creating greed, not combating poverty. America has learned and so has the rest of the world. Today, there are organizations, systems and people above reproach. You need only look to the extraordinary work of the Gates Foundation in my District in Seattle to see what is possible and effective.

Today, the only thing standing in the way of action is inaction, and we can change that. The need has never been greater and the time is now for America to lead the world to Answer Africa's Call.

That is why, on behalf of Democrat Leaders today, introduce the Answer Africa's Call Act. The Act would create a five-year, \$6 billion annual revenue stream that would fund the International Finance Fund, or the IFF. The new money from this legislation would not be subject to annual appropriations and would not increase the national debt. This approach is

brand new and it gives the President and the United States the freedom, flexibility and ability to make good on the necessary long-term commitment to combat poverty in Africa.

This war cannot be won in a year and it cannot be held hostage to an annual budget process that may be blind to the ravages of hunger, deaf to the cries for help and immune from the scourge of disease.

Mr. Chairman, British Prime Minister Tony Blair's Commission on Africa proposed an agency to channel funds from the G-8 into programs proven effective at reducing poverty. The Commission's idea is a good one and a smart, multi-nation approach in Africa will pay huge dividends down the road.

The Answer Africa's Call Act recognizes America's role and responsibility, and accepts it by giving the President an arsenal of aid and humanitarian weapons to attack poverty in Africa as never before, once and for all.

Africa's poverty and economic desperation is the greatest tragedy of our time. By comparison, the world, and especially the United States, is wealthy on a scale never before been seen in human history.

We live in a world where new medicines and medical techniques have eradicated many diseases and ailments in rich countries, even as Africa weeps while some four million children under the age of five die each year, two-thirds of them from illnesses which can be treated or wiped out for almost nothing.

Malaria is the biggest single killer of Africa's children, and half those deaths could be avoided simply with access to diagnosis and drugs that cost about a \$1 per dose.

We live in a world where rich nations invested in successful research and development of drugs to combat and control one of the most devastating diseases ever seen, AIDS. Yet in Africa, where 25 million people are infected with AIDS, anti-retroviral drugs are not made generally available, meaning two million people will die of AIDS this year.

Mr. Chairman, we live in a world where rich nations spend a billion dollars a day subsidizing the unnecessary production of unwanted food, while in Africa a billion people starve trying to survive on a dollar a day. Hunger is responsible for more deaths in Africa than all the continent's infectious diseases put together.

Despite the rhetoric about how the United States has tripled aid for Africa, a Brookings Analysis shows that aid has roughly increased by only 50 percent since 2000. This is a good start, but we must do more. We contribute far less of our national income to foreign assistance than most developed nations. That is not meant as a slap against the President it is meant as a call to action. I am a medical doctor and bound by a sacred oath to act to save lives when I can.

The G-8 meeting provides President Bush an extraordinary opportunity to demonstrate our commitment and determination to reduce poverty in Africa. Next week he could make America proud by declaring our unwavering support for the recommendations of the Commission on Africa at the G-8 Summit.

Let America lead the world toward a common destiny: to end poverty across Africa. Let us act before another life is lost, before another child goes hungry, is born with HIV/AIDS, or is orphaned when parents die from hunger, disease or hopeless despair.

Let us walk together on a road that leads to Africa's destiny, a continent where people no

longer suffer and die from hunger and poverty. Let us resolve today to take the first of many steps, as one world, to end poverty in Africa, so that Africans may wake each day to a world where the sun shines on their hopes, dreams and future.

Surely, America's compassion can shine across Africa. Unquestionably, America can lead a global fight against poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. But we need the courage of our President. I implore him to act.

## BRAZIL TO SEIZE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL PATENTS

HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, in recent days, The New York Times and some of our colleagues have publicly encouraged and endorsed the government of Brazil to seize American pharmaceutical patents, citing an urgent need to accommodate a public health crisis in that country.

These arguments are false. American drug companies sell life-saving antiretroviral therapies at an almost 90 percent discount in Brazil; furthermore, Brazil's rate of HIV infection is almost the same as it is in the U.S.—well below 1 percent. Brazil appears to be manufacturing reasons to support its intent to develop a generic export capacity.

The World Trade Organization's 1994 Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS), in conjunction with the 2001 Doha Declaration, enables countries to temporarily suspend patents when there is a dire need and when those patents are precluding access to life-saving medicines.

In Brazil's case, there are serious concerns that it is willfully manipulating WTO rules for commercial gain. Consider the remarks by Brazil's health minister just this week in Geneva: "Brazil once again takes a new step forward in the struggle against AIDS . . . This stage may come to represent the first step for introducing a new phase in our local [antiretroviral] production. An additional target is to support our national manufacturing industry in this respect, as we are totally committed in maintaining high quality in the medicines available in the public health services."

The wholesale theft of American technology for another country's commercial gain was never the intent of the Doha Declaration or TRIPS. The United States should consider any and all retaliatory measures if Brazil proceeds with such blatant theft. The theft of these pharmaceutical patents will cost Americans billions of dollars and take away investment that could otherwise be spent on the development of new drugs ranging from epidemics to the common cold.

Please include the following editorials "Richman? Poorman? Beggarman? Thief? by James Pinkerton and Brazil Mulls Drug Patent Theft as an AIDS Antidote by Anastasia O'Grady.

[From the Tech Central Station, June 29, 2005]

RICHMAN? POORMAN? BEGGARMAN? THIEF?  
(By James Pinkerton)

Will the real Brazil please stand up? Is Brazil a poor country that needs more for-

eign aid from the United States—even involuntary aid? Or is it an increasingly rich and powerful country that can seize foreign markets for itself? Indeed, is it so powerful that that it doesn't need to play by the rules?

One source not to look to for answers is the Brazilian government itself, as we shall see.

To an outside observer, it's apparent that the Brazilians clearly want to have it all three ways: being needy when it suits them, being export-y as they are able, being greedy when they think they can get away with it—and if that last stance hurts the U.S. economy, too bad. It's a little complicated, and a little bewildering. And yet Uncle Sam's answer to the "Brazil Bewilderment" will help determine America's own wealth, and health, in the 21st Century.

Two recent items show the sharp divergence in perspectives on Brazil. The New York Times' editorial page sees Brazil as a destitute place. Which means, of course, that Brazil is a wonderful place—for the Times to preach some politically correct "compassion." Using somebody else's money, of course. In a June 23 editorial, the paper sided with Brazil in its long-running argument with American owners of Intellectual Property (IP); in this case, the fight is with the biotech industry.

The Times noted that "Brazil's free universal treatment program, an indispensable weapon against the AIDS epidemic, locks Brazil's government into buying lifelong daily medicines for 170,000 people, and that number is rising." And so, the Times continued, "Brazil has the right to make sure it can continue to meet this burden by getting medicines at the cheapest possible price." And the cheapest possible price can be arrived at, quite often, through simple theft: the violation of IP property rights.

In other words, the Times is so in love with government-run "universal" health care that it wants the U.S.—or, more precisely, U.S. Pharma companies—to finance such health care in other countries. It would be one thing if the Times simply editorialized in favor of America subsidizing the Brazilian social insurance system. That is, the president and the Congress could simply vote to transfer a few billion dollars a year to Brazil. But of course, no elected officials would ever vote for such an overt wealth-transfer, so the Times finds it expedient to endorse a covert wealth-transfer, in the form of IP ripoff.

And obviously the Times couldn't be expected to worry much about anything so bourgeois as the rights of American companies, and their shareholders and stakeholders. As the Times sneeringly put it, "Rightwing groups in the United States and pharmaceutical manufacturers are calling this theft, and several members of Congress have asked the United States trade representative to apply trade sanctions." And yet, the Times advised, "The American trade representative should make a public statement that the United States will not retaliate against Brazil for exercising its right to save lives."

In the paper's pro-Brazil policy, we see how p.c. solicitude for AIDS victims joins up with an all-purpose entitlement mentality—to create a ruinous prescription for American well-being, as well as a dire prospect for future medical innovation in a property-rights-wrecking environment.

But another Times newspaper has a far different take on Brazil, a country which, after all, boasts the 9th-largest economy in the world today. According to a June 22 article in The Financial Times that ran the same day, under the headline, "Brazil is yielding farms that can feed the world," Brazil is on its way to becoming "a pivotal nation in the future of world trade. Brazil is to agriculture