WORLD AIDS DAY

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, December 1, communities around the world will acknowledge World AIDS Day. This year's World AIDS campaign will address masculine behaviors and attitudes that contribute to the spread of HIV. The new campaign aims to involve men, particularly young men, more fully in the effort against AIDS.

June 5, 1981, marked the first reported case of AIDS. Since then, 5.3 million people worldwide continue to be infected, with roughly 3 million AIDS-related deaths annually. HIV/AIDS has caused over 25 million fatalities, and 40 million are living with the disease worldwide. Eighteen million are women and 3 million are children.

To combat this growing global threat, I along with 62 of my colleagues have most recently called on President Bush to set aside $1 billion in emergency fiscal year 2002 funding to fight the global AIDS pandemic, TB, and malaria. This funding is essential so that additional investments from both public and private sources can be leveraged to meet the cost of effectively combating the global AIDS pandemic.

Money is unquestionably a key component to our global battle to eradicate AIDS; however, equally critical is individual behavior. In spite of the progress we have made in our battle against AIDS, there is still approximately 40,000 new HIV infections a year in the United States, the exact number reported 10 years ago. We must encourage men to adopt positive behaviors and to play a greater role in caring for their partners and families. We all have a role to play.

HONORING CLEARFIELD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

(Mr. SHUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding achievements of the Clearfield, Pennsylvania, Emergency Medical Service Company. On August 10, 2001, the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council chose Clearfield EMS from among 1,000 ambulance service companies statewide to receive the rural ambulance service-of-the-year award.

Clearfield EMS garnered such an award not only through exemplary ambulance service but also through their involvement in the community. Free flu shots and participation at county fairs and festivals are just a couple of the many ways that Clearfield EMS has taken the lead in community education and involvement.

I congratulate Clearfield EMS on their exceptional accomplishments and their determination to improve their already stellar service. Clearfield EMS should serve as an example in excellence for other ambulance services nationwide.

□ 1100

TREATING HIV–AIDS AS A THREAT TO GLOBAL SECURITY

(Ms. WATSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, in honor of World AIDS Day, we must remember that it is estimated that by 2010, one-quarter of South Africa's population will be infected by HIV–AIDS. Other African nations are suffering similar rates of infection.

In late August, I traveled to South Africa to examine the HIV–AIDS pandemic firsthand. While there, I visited KwaZulu-Natal, a region with the highest HIV infection in the world. In that region, an estimated 1 in 3 adults tests positive for HIV. The time has come for the United States to treat HIV as the threat to global security that it is.

Let us not forget that Osama bin Laden has exploited the misery of another state where civil society has collapsed, Afghanistan, to serve as a base for his terror network. The United States must act to prevent HIV from destroying an entire generation, not only of Africans, but those in Afghanistan.

I urge my colleagues to remember this day on the 1st of December and ask for a renewed effort to fight against HIV–AIDS in Africa.

TERRORISM RISK PROTECTION ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 297 ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 297

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3210) to ensure the continued financial capacity of insurers to provide coverage for risks from terrorism. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. In lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 3357 shall be considered as adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the bill, as amended, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services; (2) the further amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by Representative LaFalce of New York or his designee, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us today is a fair, modified rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 3210, the Terrorism Risk Protection Act. The rule provides that in lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Ways and Means, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 3357 shall be considered as adopted.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, as amended, and provides for 1 hour of debate in the House, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. It also provides for consideration of the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Committee on Rules report accompanying the resolution, if offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) or his designee.

The bill shall be considered as read and shall be separately debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and opponent. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the amendment printed in the reported. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, on September 11, the collective memory of Americans was altered forever. The terrorist attacks resulted in an incalculable loss, both in terms of life and the destruction of buildings, property and businesses. In the 2½ months since the attacks, America has begun the painful process of recovery and healing.

Today we are here to consider H.R. 3210, the Terrorism Risk Protection Act. Exposure to terrorism is not only a threat to our national security, but is also a threat to the United States and global economies. The full extent of insured losses from September 11 is not yet known, but current estimates span from the range of $30 billion to $70 billion.

There is no doubt that these terrorist attacks have resulted in the most catastrophic loss in the history of property and casualty insurance. While the insurance industry has indicated that it will be able to cover total losses, and should be commended for its resiliency, we are faced with a new situation that requires an innovative and creative solution.