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## Senate

### SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

(Continued)

AMENDMENT NO. 3729

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to urge my colleagues to support the amendment introduced by Senators DURBIN and SPECTER with cosponsorship by several colleagues and myself. The amendment would increase the amount of money in this emergency appropriations bill for several purposes related to combating the most pernicious infectious diseases confronting humankind today.

The amendment would raise the U.S. contribution to the Global Fund to Combat AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, increase the resources of our Centers for Disease Control for prevention, treatment, control of, and research on HIV/AIDS, and provide funds for child survival, maternal health, and other programs to combat tuberculosis and to address the consequences of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The United States of America contributed last year to the Global Fund and correctly urges other developed countries to participate actively and generously in that global initiative. Nevertheless, I feel we can and must do more to overcome the debilitating effects of these diseases on societies that are struggling.

The dimensions of the global HIV/AIDS crisis are overwhelming. At current rates of infection, it is estimated that 100 million people will have had HIV/AIDS by 2005. More than 36 million people are currently infected with the virus and 22 million people have already died from it, more than the number of soldiers killed in all major wars of the twentieth century. Thirteen million children worldwide have lost one or both parents to AIDS, and that number is expected to triple to 42 million by 2010. In 10 African countries life expectancy has dropped by more than 20 years, which is almost entirely as a result of AIDS deaths. In China, the

number of people with HIV increased by 69 percent in 1999 and another 37 percent in 2000, according to official statistics, and nearly 80 percent of those testing positive for infection are between 20 and 40 years of age. In Russia, Ukraine and throughout the Commonwealth of Independent States, HIV increased five times between 1997 and 1998; in 1999, the region recorded the highest increase in HIV infection in the world.

The AIDS pandemic is having a disastrous impact on economic growth rates, public services and private companies, impoverishing millions of families and orphaning children and rolling back hard-won social gains in human development, including life expectancy, income and education. It is unprecedented in its destructive impact on regional development, because it kills so many adults in the prime of their working and parenting lives, it decimates the workforce, fractures and impoverishes families, orphans millions, and shreds the fabric of communities. In its wake it leaves desperation—one of the greatest threats to peace within and between peoples and nations.

In the face of this challenge, the United States should not treat the major global initiative against infectious disease as a bargaining table at which to challenge other governments' commitment and generosity. We should lead by example. It is in our national interest and consistent with the humanitarian values of America that we contribute substantially to the global fight against infectious disease. I hope all my colleagues will vote to do so by adopting this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, have other Senators spoken on this amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All other Senators have spoken on the amendment.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, the distinguished Senator from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN, has offered this amendment, and I think he has spoken for a good cause. He is a very highly respected member of the Appropriations Committee, the committee that I chair.

I salute him for speaking out on this matter. I have listened to the poignant cases that he has referred to of persons who have been infected with AIDS. There is no question but that the cause for which he speaks is one which the world should be greatly concerned about.

But there is a limit, in the first place, to our ability as a nation to fund even the good causes. We can only do so much. And regardless of how much we might appropriate today for this purpose, we can never appropriate enough. There will never be enough money in the U.S. Treasury that we can utilize for this purpose. There will never be enough to fully deal with this pandemic.

So, Mr. President, I salute the distinguished Senator from Illinois for his determination, for his humanitarianism, and for the appeal that he has made in this matter. But I have to oppose the amendment. We have a bill here that has been carefully worked out on a bipartisan basis. The ranking member and I, and all the members on his side of the aisle and the members on my side of the aisle—including the distinguished Senator from Illinois—have worked laboriously to produce a bill that will bring the necessary appropriations for the protection of the homeland.

The President made a request, and based on the very thorough hearings that were conducted by my full Committee on Appropriations, we have enlarged over and above the President's request. But we think we are acting judiciously and based on the hearings of the people at the local level: the firemen, the policemen, the health service, the medical personnel. And we have listened to the Governors and the mayors

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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