

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 18, 2009

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare your budget proposal for fiscal year 2011, we write to encourage you to meet the authorized funding levels of the "Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008."

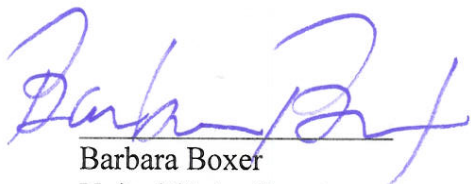
The success of our HIV/AIDS program is potentially compromised by a proposed slow-down in the pace of funding. We cannot afford to lose momentum in our fight against these diseases. We must maintain the pace of funding to meet the expanded mandate of the Lantos-Hyde Act, including the strengthening of health systems and workforce development programs, and the expansion of services for orphaned and vulnerable children.

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has demonstrated America's unprecedented leadership in combating HIV/AIDS, building the capacity of local institutions to treat HIV/AIDS as well as contributing to overall health system strengthening. U.S. contributions to the Global Fund have also leveraged considerable donations from other international donors. Additionally, PEPFAR plays an important role in responding to gender-based violence and has begun refining its approach to better meet the complex health needs of women in developing countries.

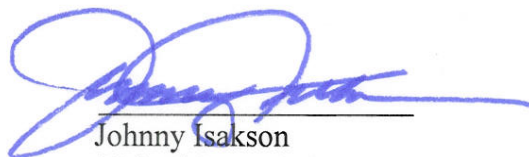
Your leadership in expanding the United States' commitment to other health priorities such as neglected diseases and maternal and child health under the Global Health Initiative is welcome. But we must be mindful that these important programs do not come at the expense of commitments made under the Lantos-Hyde Act.

America has, with bipartisan support from Congress, made tangible gains in saving lives in many impoverished countries and demonstrated our compassion to the world. This leadership must continue. As such, we urge you to support funding for global AIDS programs, including U.S. bilateral programs and the Global Fund, consistent with the Lantos-Hyde Act.

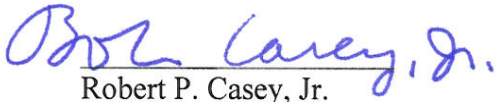
Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator



Johnny Isakson  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



Frank R. Lautenberg  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Edward E. Kaufman  
United States Senator

cc.: Peter R. Orszag, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Dr. Eric Goosby, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, U.S. Department of State