

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 35

Unofficial Copy
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2002 Regular Session
2lr2910

By: **Delegate Nathan-Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 2002

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean**

3 FOR the purpose of urging Congress to vote against cutting certain funds designated
4 for HIV/AIDS prevention and education programs in the Caribbean.

5 WHEREAS, Before 1985, there was only one identified case of HIV/AIDS in the
6 Caribbean and today the Caribbean has the second highest rate of HIV/AIDS in the
7 world after Sub-Saharan Africa; and

8 WHEREAS, An organization of Caribbean-American elected and appointed
9 officials recently spoke at the White House about the need in the Caribbean for
10 funding for public awareness, diagnosis, and treatment of HIV/AIDS; and

11 WHEREAS, Nine out of 12 countries with the highest HIV prevalence in the
12 Americas are in the Caribbean basin, and the countries of Haiti, Bahamas, and the
13 Dominican Republic are the worst-affected; and

14 WHEREAS, It is estimated that 74,000 Haitian children had lost their mothers
15 to AIDS by the end of 1999; and

16 WHEREAS, The Third Border Initiative, announced last year by the Bush
17 Administration, set aside \$20 million in fiscal year 2002 that is designated for
18 HIV/AIDS prevention and education programs in the Caribbean but it is estimated
19 that approximately \$260 million per year is required to combat HIV/AIDS; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
22 General Assembly of Maryland urges Congress to vote against cutting the \$20 million
23 designated in fiscal year 2002 for HIV/AIDS prevention and education programs in
24 the Caribbean; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
26 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
27 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
28 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it
29 further

1 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
2 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
3 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;
4 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,
5 Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and
6 Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.