

HR 2470

MEDDS Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Jun 12, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade. (Jun 19, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2470>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-35]

Party: Democratic • State: CA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Kucinich, Dennis J. [D-OH-10]	D · OH		Jun 12, 2003
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Jun 12, 2003
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jun 12, 2003
Del. Christensen, Donna M. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Jun 26, 2003
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Jun 26, 2003
Rep. Crowley, Joseph [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Jun 26, 2003
Rep. Evans, Lane [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Jun 26, 2003
Rep. McNulty, Michael R. [D-NY-21]	D · NY		Jun 26, 2003
Rep. Payne, Donald M. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Jun 26, 2003
Rep. Owens, Major R. [D-NY-11]	D · NY		Jul 10, 2003
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Jul 25, 2003
Rep. Gutierrez, Luis V. [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Jul 25, 2003
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Jul 25, 2003
Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Sep 17, 2003
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Sep 17, 2003
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Nov 25, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Jun 12, 2003
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 19, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jun 12, 2003)

Medicines to Eliminate Diseases in Developing States Act or MEDDS Act - Requires the Secretary of the Treasury, the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to encourage developing countries and pharmaceutical companies to make medicines for HIV/AIDS and other diseases available without charge or at affordable prices in developing countries.

Prohibits agencies from obligating or expending Federal funds to seek the revocation or revision of any intellectual property or competition law or policy of a developing country that regulates medicines for HIV/AIDS and other diseases, if the law or policy promotes access to such medicines for the population of the country. Prohibits the USTR from initiating a proceeding in the World Trade Organization (WTO) challenging any law or policy of a developing country that promotes such access.

Requires the President to direct the U.S. representative to the WTO to urge the WTO to exempt developing countries from the application of any provision of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) or other trade agreements that would prohibit or restrict those countries from establishing law or policy promoting access to medicines for HIV/AIDS and other diseases for their populations, and to support full implementation of the Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health. Requires the USTR to oppose the inclusion in future trade agreements of any provision that would prohibit or otherwise restrict developing countries from establishing or implementing the laws or policies encouraged by this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 19, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade.
- **Jun 12, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 12, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 12, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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