

Calendar No. 718

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2433

[Report No. 110-331]

To require the President to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global poverty, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1 per day.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 7, 2007

Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. DODD, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. KERRY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

APRIL 24, 2008

Reported by Mr. BIDEN, with amendments and an amendment to the title

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To require the President to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global poverty, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of re-

ducing by one-half the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1 per day.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Global Poverty Act
 5 of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) More than 1,000,000,000 people worldwide
 9 live on less than \$1 per day, and another
 10 1,600,000,000 people struggle to survive on less
 11 than \$2 per day, according to the World Bank.

12 (2) At the United Nations Millennium Summit
 13 in 2000, the United States joined more than 180
 14 other countries in committing to work toward goals
 15 to improve life for the world’s poorest people by
 16 2015.

17 (3) The year 2007 marks the mid-point to the
 18 Millennium Development Goals deadline of 2015.

19 (4) The ~~United Nations~~ Millennium Develop-
 20 ment Goals include the goal of reducing by one-half
 21 the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990
 22 and 2015, that live on less than \$1 per day, cutting
 23 in half the proportion of people suffering from hun-

1 ger and unable to access safe drinking water and
2 sanitation, reducing child mortality by two-thirds,
3 ensuring basic education for all children, and revers-
4 ing the spread of HIV/AIDS and malaria, while sus-
5 taining the environment upon which human life de-
6 pends.

7 (5) On March 22, 2002, President George W.
8 ~~Bush stated~~ *Bush participated in the International*
9 *Conference on Finance for Development and endorsed*
10 *the Monterey Consensus, stating: “We fight against*
11 *poverty because hope is an answer to terror. We*
12 *fight against poverty because opportunity is a funda-*
13 *mental right to human dignity. We fight against*
14 *poverty because faith requires it and conscience de-*
15 *mands it. We fight against poverty with a growing*
16 *conviction that major progress is within our reach.”.*

17 (6) The 2002 National Security Strategy of the
18 United States notes: “[A] world where some live in
19 comfort and plenty, while half of the human race
20 lives on less than \$2 per day, is neither just nor sta-
21 ble. Including all of the world’s poor in an expanding
22 circle of development and opportunity is a moral im-
23 perative and one of the top priorities of U.S. inter-
24 national policy.”.

1 (7) The 2006 National Security Strategy of the
2 United States notes: “America’s national interests
3 and moral values drive us in the same direction: to
4 assist the world’s poor citizens and least developed
5 nations and help integrate them into the global econ-
6 omy.”.

7 (8) The bipartisan Final Report of the National
8 Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United
9 States *released in 2004* recommends: “A comprehen-
10 sive United States strategy to counter terrorism
11 should include economic policies that encourage de-
12 velopment, more open societies, and opportunities
13 for people to improve the lives of their families and
14 enhance prospects for their children.”.

15 (9) At the summit of the Group of Eight (G-
16 8) nations in July 2005, leaders from all eight par-
17 ticipating countries committed to increase aid to Af-
18 rica from the current \$25,000,000,000 annually to
19 \$50,000,000,000 by 2010, and to cancel 100 percent
20 of the debt obligations owed to the World Bank, Af-
21 rican Development Bank, and International Mone-
22 tary Fund by 18 of the world’s poorest nations.

23 (10) At the United Nations World Summit in
24 September 2005, the United States joined more
25 than 180 other governments in reiterating their

1 commitment to achieve the United Nations Millen-
2 nium Development Goals by 2015.

3 (11) The United States has recognized the need
4 for increased financial and technical assistance to
5 countries burdened by extreme poverty, as well as
6 the need for strengthened economic and trade oppor-
7 tunities for those countries, through significant ini-
8 tiatives in recent years, including the Millennium
9 Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.), the
10 United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tu-
11 berculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C.
12 7601 et seq.), the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries
13 Initiative, and trade preference programs for devel-
14 oping countries, such as the African Growth and Op-
15 portunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

16 ~~(12) In January 2006, United States Secretary~~
17 ~~of State Condoleezza Rice initiated a restructuring~~
18 ~~of the United States foreign assistance program, in-~~
19 ~~cluding the creation of a Director of Foreign Assist-~~
20 ~~ance, who maintains authority over Department of~~
21 ~~State and United States Agency for International~~
22 ~~Development (USAID) foreign assistance funding~~
23 ~~and programs.~~

24 ~~(13)~~ (12) In January 2007, the Department of
25 State's Office of the Director of Foreign Assistance

1 added poverty reduction as an explicit, central com-
 2 ponent of the overall goal of United States foreign
 3 assistance. The official goal of United States foreign
 4 assistance is: “To help build and sustain democratic,
 5 well-governed states that respond to the needs of
 6 their people, reduce widespread poverty and conduct
 7 themselves responsibly in the international system.”.

8 ~~(14) Economic growth and poverty reduction~~
 9 ~~are more successful in countries that invest in the~~
 10 ~~people, rule justly, and promote economic freedom.~~
 11 ~~These principles have become the core of several de-~~
 12 ~~velopment programs of the United States Govern-~~
 13 ~~ment, such as the Millennium Challenge Account.~~

14 **SEC. 3. DECLARATION OF POLICY.**

15 It is the policy of the United States to promote the
 16 reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme
 17 global poverty, and the achievement of the Millennium De-
 18 velopment Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of
 19 people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less
 20 than \$1 per day.

21 **SEC. 4. REQUIREMENT TO DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE**
 22 **STRATEGY.**

23 (a) STRATEGY.—The President, acting through the
 24 Secretary of State, and in consultation with the heads of
 25 other appropriate departments and agencies of the United

1 States Government, international organizations, inter-
2 national financial institutions, the governments of devel-
3 oping and developed countries, United States and inter-
4 national nongovernmental organizations, civil society orga-
5 nizations, and other appropriate entities, shall develop and
6 implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United
7 States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction
8 of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global pov-
9 erty, and the achievement of the Millennium Development
10 Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of people
11 worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than
12 \$1 per day.

13 (b) CONTENT.—The strategy required by subsection
14 (a) shall include specific and measurable goals, efforts to
15 be undertaken, benchmarks, and timetables to achieve the
16 objectives described in subsection (a).

17 (c) COMPONENTS.—The strategy required by sub-
18 section (a) should include the following components:

19 (1) Continued investment or involvement in ex-
20 isting United States initiatives related to inter-
21 national poverty reduction, such as the United
22 States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis,
23 and Malaria Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7601 et seq.),
24 the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C.
25 7701 et seq.), and trade preference programs for de-

1 veloping countries, such as the African Growth and
2 Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

3 (2) Improving the effectiveness of development
4 assistance and making available additional overall
5 United States assistance levels as appropriate.

6 (3) Enhancing and expanding debt relief as ap-
7 propriate.

8 (4) Leveraging United States trade policy
9 where possible to enhance economic development
10 prospects for developing countries.

11 (5) Coordinating efforts and working in co-
12 operation with developed and developing countries,
13 international organizations, and international finan-
14 cial institutions.

15 (6) Mobilizing and leveraging the participation
16 of businesses, United States and international non-
17 governmental organizations, civil society, and public-
18 private partnerships.

19 (7) Coordinating the goal of poverty reduction
20 with other development goals, such as combating the
21 spread of preventable diseases such as HIV/AIDS,
22 tuberculosis, and malaria; increasing access to pota-
23 ble water and basic sanitation; reducing hunger and
24 malnutrition; and improving access to and quality of
25 education at all levels regardless of gender. *with the*

1 *other internationally recognized Millennium Develop-*
2 *ment Goals, including eradicating extreme hunger*
3 *and reducing hunger and malnutrition, achieving*
4 *universal education, promoting gender equality and*
5 *empowering women, reducing child mortality, im-*
6 *proving maternal health, combating the spread of pre-*
7 *ventable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and*
8 *malaria, increasing access to potable water and basic*
9 *sanitation, ensuring environmental sustainability,*
10 *and achieving significant improvement in the lives of*
11 *at least 100,000,000 slum dwellers.*

12 (8) Integrating principles of sustainable devel-
13 opment and entrepreneurship into policies and pro-
14 grams.

15 (d) REPORTS.—

16 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
19 President, acting through the Secretary of
20 State, shall submit to the appropriate congres-
21 sional committees a report on the strategy re-
22 quired under subsection (a).

23 (B) CONTENT.—The report required under
24 subparagraph (A) shall include the following
25 elements:

1 (i) A description of the strategy re-
2 quired under subsection (a).

3 (ii) An evaluation, to the extent pos-
4 sible, both proportionate and absolute, of
5 the contributions provided by the United
6 States and other national and international
7 actors in achieving the Millennium Devel-
8 opment Goal of reducing by one-half the
9 proportion of people worldwide, between
10 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1
11 per day.

12 (iii) An assessment of the overall
13 progress toward achieving the Millennium
14 Development Goal of reducing by one-half
15 the proportion of people worldwide, be-
16 tween 1990 and 2015, who live on less
17 than \$1 per day.

18 (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not later than
19 December 31, 2012, and December 31, 2015, the
20 President shall submit to the appropriate congres-
21 sional committees reports on the status of the imple-
22 mentation of the strategy, progress made in achiev-
23 ing the global poverty reduction objectives described
24 in subsection (a), and any changes to the strategy
25 since the date of the submission of the last report.

1 (e) *COORDINATOR.*—*The Secretary of State shall des-*
2 *ignate a coordinator who will have primary responsibility*
3 *for overseeing and drafting the initial report under para-*
4 *graph (1) of subsection (d) and subsequent reports under*
5 *paragraph (2) of such subsection, in coordination with rel-*
6 *evant Federal agencies, as well as responsibility for helping*
7 *to implement recommendations contained in the reports.*

8 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**
11 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-
12 mittees” means—

13 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations
14 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
15 Senate; and

16 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
17 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
18 of Representatives.

19 (2) **EXTREME GLOBAL POVERTY.**—The term
20 “extreme global poverty” refers to the conditions in
21 which individuals live on less than \$1 per day, ad-
22 justed for purchasing power parity in 1993 United
23 States dollars, according to World Bank statistics.

24 (3) **GLOBAL POVERTY.**—The term “global pov-
25 erty” refers to the conditions in which individuals

1 live on less than \$2 per day, adjusted for purchasing
2 power parity in 1993 United States dollars, accord-
3 ing to World Bank statistics.

4 (4) MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS.—The
5 term “Millennium Development Goals” means the
6 goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Dec-
7 laration, General Assembly Resolution 55/2 (2000).

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to require the President to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global poverty, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of people, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1 per day.”.

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