

# The Global HEALTH Act of 2010

## *Background*

### **What is the Global HEALTH Act?**

*The full title of the bill is the Global Health Expansion, Access to Labor, Transparency, and Harmonization (HEALTH) Act of 2010. The bill is HR 4933 introduced by Representative Barbara Lee (CA-9<sup>th</sup>), a long-time Congressional champion of global health aid. The Act aims to create a comprehensive and integrated solution to global health aid, taking special care to improve health systems and strengthen health workforce.*

### **Why do we need it?**

*Strengthening health systems and workforce is the basis to creating a long-term, sustainable health system for patients in international medically underserved areas. The bill initiates the creation of a strategy to take into account multiple global health issues, from HIV/AIDS and Malaria to maternal and child health, and ensure that the basics of a health system, including health workers, are available to provide comprehensive care to patients.*

### **How is it different from the President's Global Health Initiative (GHI)?**

*The President's GHI lays down important principles, including budgetary principles, for U.S. global health aid. The Global HEALTH Act transforms these principles into policy-driven initiatives. Find out more about the Global Health Initiative on [www.THEglobalhealthinitiative.org](http://www.THEglobalhealthinitiative.org).*

### **What does the bill do as far as health care workers?**

*The Global HEALTH Act authorizes the Global Health Workforce Initiative, an in-depth strategy to increase health workforce in specific developing countries. This workforce initiative strengthens training, retention, and safety of health workers including doctors, nurses, other health professionals, community health workers, midwives, and more.*

### **How much does it cost?**

*The bill authorizes up to \$2 billion over five years for use by the President for the Global Health Workforce Initiative, and authorizes necessary funds for other work in this bill.*

### **Where can I find the bill?**

*Find the bill at [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov). Search for HR 4933.*

### **How can I support the bill?**

*Ask your Congressman or Congresswoman to co-sponsor and support HR 4933. Make a phone call to the Congressional Switchboard at 202-224-3121, host a call-in at your school, and visit your Representative in-person to ask for their support.*

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