



(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To modify the requirements under the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003
for candidate countries, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CASTRO of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To modify the requirements under the Millennium Challenge
Act of 2003 for candidate countries, and for other purposes.

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 “Millennium Challenge
5 Corporation Eligibility Expansion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS OF REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME A**
7 **CANDIDATE COUNTRY.**

8 Section 606 of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003
9 (22 U.S.C. 7705) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 606. CANDIDATE COUNTRIES.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A country shall be a candidate
3 country for purposes of eligibility for receiving assistance
4 under section 605 if—

5 “(1) the per capita income of the country is
6 equal to or less than the gross national income per
7 capita of the 125th poorest country as identified by
8 the World Bank for the fiscal year; and

9 “(2) subject to subsection (b), the country is
10 not ineligible to receive United States economic as-
11 sistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act
12 of 1961 by reason of the application of any provision
13 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any other
14 provision of law.

15 “(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For the purposes of
16 determining whether a country is eligible for receiving as-
17 sistance under section 605 pursuant to subsection (a)(2),
18 the exercise by the President, the Secretary of State, or
19 any other officer or employee of the United States of any
20 waiver or suspension of any provision of law referred to
21 in such paragraph, and notification to the appropriate
22 congressional committees in accordance with such provi-
23 sion of law, shall be construed as satisfying the require-
24 ments of such subsection.

1 “(c) IDENTIFICATION BY THE BOARD.—The Board
2 shall identify whether a country is a candidate country for
3 purposes of this section.”.

4 **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

5 (a) AMENDMENT TO MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE COM-
6 PACT AUTHORITY.—Section 609(b)(2) of the Millennium
7 Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7708(b)(2)) is amend-
8 ed—

9 (1) by striking the heading and inserting
10 “COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS”; and

11 (2) by striking “with respect to a lower middle
12 income country described in section 606(b),”.

13 (b) AMENDMENT TO REPORT IDENTIFYING CAN-
14 DIDATE COUNTRIES.—Section 608(a)(1) of the Millen-
15 nium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7707(a)(1)) is
16 amended by striking “section 606(a)(1)(B)” and inserting
17 “section 606(a)(2)”.

18 (c) AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE
19 ASSISTANCE FOR CANDIDATE COUNTRIES.—Section
20 616(b)(1) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22
21 U.S.C. 7715(b)(1)) is amended by striking “subsection (a)
22 or (b) of section 606” and inserting “section 606(a)”.

1 **SEC. 4. MODIFICATION TO FACTORS IN DETERMINING ELI-**
2 **GIBILITY.**

3 Section 607(c)(2) of the Millennium Challenge Act of
4 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7706(c)(2)) is amended in the matter
5 preceding subparagraph (A) by striking “consider” and
6 inserting “prioritize need and impact by considering”.