

# “You Shall Be Called the Repairer of The Breach.”

– Isaiah 58: 12

**In a world destabilized by hunger, disease, and conflict,** the generosity and values of the American people in fighting global poverty offer a unique chance to repair the breaches that weaken the world and to bring new opportunity to millions.

“If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,” the prophet Isaiah writes, “then your light shall rise in the darkness... and you shall be called the repairer of the breach.”

— Isaiah 58: 10-12

**We urge you to demonstrate your commitment to the wellbeing of all God’s people and to global security by passing improved versions of two of the most successful global poverty initiatives the U.S. Government has ever supported:**

**Global AIDS Reauthorization Act of 2008.** The U.S. Government’s bipartisan commitment to fighting the deadly pandemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria has saved millions of lives, provided care and support for millions of orphans and vulnerable children and helped to stabilize some of the most vulnerable communities in the world. More than two months ago the House passed a bold reauthorization plan that will ensure the transition from emergency-focused AIDS programming into a sustainable integrated effort that will help save millions more lives. **We urge Senators to negotiate an immediate end to the disagreements currently preventing the Senate from bringing its bill to the floor. Every day the Senate delays in passing its bipartisan bill the wrong signal is sent to those living with HIV/AIDS around the world that our nation’s compassionate response to their suffering is faltering.**

**The Jubilee Act for Responsible Lending and Expanded Debt Cancellation of 2007.** Debt cancellation for nations plagued with deadly poverty has proven to be an effective tool to fight poverty because it frees up critical financial resources for developing countries to reinvest in poverty-reduction programs. Unfortunately, several dozen countries most in need do not qualify for debt relief under current programs. S. 2166 calls on the U.S. to begin multilateral negotiations aimed at expanding debt cancellation eligibility for poor nations with responsible governments that otherwise will not achieve internationally agreed upon poverty reduction targets. **This vital legislation was passed by the House in April and is scheduled for committee markup in the Senate before the end of this month. We urge Senators to pass the legislation on the floor by the end of summer so international negotiations on a new debt deal can begin at once.**

**Fight deadly disease. Break the chains of debt. End poverty.**

## Repair the breach.



American Friends Service Committee  
Catholic Relief Services  
Christian Reformed World Relief Committee  
Church World Service  
Columban Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office  
Conference of Major Superiors of Men  
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship  
He Intends Victory  
The Episcopal Church  
Episcopal Relief and Development  
Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Evangelicals for Social Action  
Food for the Hungry  
FreshMinistries  
Jubilee USA  
LifeRise AIDS Resources  
Lutheran World Relief  
MAP International  
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns  
Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office  
Micah Challenge USA  
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate; Justice, Peace/ Integrity of Creation Office  
National Council of Churches USA NETWORK  
Presbyterian Church, (USA), Washington Office  
Siyafundisa: Africa HIV/AIDS Education Project  
Sojourners  
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries  
United Faith Action Network of The AIDS Institute  
United Methodist Church, General Board of Church & Society  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
Viva AIDS Forum  
Washington Office on Africa  
World Concern  
World Hope International  
World Relief