



[Name]  
[Street Address]  
[City, State, Zip]  
[Number]

To the Honorable [Name]

I am writing to you as [title of recipient, i.e. Chairman of the Foreign Affairs] to encourage the approval of legislation that addresses malaria and further global health issues. In support of the goals of Global Health Forum's Minus Malaria Initiative, I encourage you to support the following legislative bills in taking steps to eradicate malaria:

- **H.R. 3160:** 21st Century Global Health Technology Act (HR 3160) S. 1591
- **HR 1410:** Newborn, Child, and Maternal Survival Act of 2009
- **HR 2139:** Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act of 2009 (S 1524: Foreign Assistance Revitalization and Accountability Act of 2009)

I care about malaria because it is a threat to a majority of the world's population today. As long as malaria is a threat abroad, it has the potential to return to the United States and emerge as a danger to the health of Americans. According to the CDC, at the peak of the malaria epidemic in the United States, malaria infected nearly 350 people per 100,000 people. As travelers abroad, I and other Americans are equally, if not more, susceptible to falling sick from malaria, a potentially life-threatening illness.

For these reasons I foremost urge you to support H.R. 2139 on my belief that, as a developed country, it is our responsibility to eradicate this disease by providing effective foreign aid to endemic areas. It would be to our disadvantage if our methods of foreign assistance were inefficient and not sustainable. A 2006 bipartisan task force led by the Brookings Institution study concluded that "America's aspirations and aid dollars will continue to exceed our impact on the ground unless and until we refocus our foreign assistance strategy, modernize our aid infrastructure, and build our operational civilian capabilities" H.R. 2139 aims to rectify this problem.

Furthermore, I believe that H.R. 1410 and H.R. 3160 are important measures which decrease the burden of this disease that is a threat to the world, including me and my community. The United States holds the mental and physical power to produce technologies that can make a sizeable impact - but we have yet to harness such ability; H.R. 3160 provides the means for this to happen. For example, a highly concentrated effort on malaria vaccines could beat back the prevalence of this disease with much more power than any previous intervention. Finally, H.R. 1410 encourages the United States to address child and maternal health by providing assistance to reduce mortality and improve health of these populations. Addressing issues of maternal, child, and newborn health is critical in the fight against malaria.

The United States should aim to make foreign assistance an effective and efficient process as well as pursue global health initiatives that relieve the burden of malaria. It is a step in the right direction towards a world 'minus malaria.' Along with supporting political action, GHF is making additional efforts to combat this disease. **With each letter we sent to Congress, we promise to donate an insecticide-treated bed net to a family in Africa.** Through political collaborations and student-motivated philanthropy, *we believe in a world minus malaria.* Please consider approving H.R. 3610, H.R. 1410, and H.R. 2139. We would appreciate hearing your thoughts and final decision on these important legislative documents.

Sincerely,

in support of Global Health Forum