

ACTION SHEET

Ask members of Congress to cosponsor the End TB Now Act (S.3386 / H.R.8654)

Introduced by Representatives Ami Bera (D-CA) and Maria Salazar (R-FL) and Senators Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Todd Young (R-IN), the End Tuberculosis Now Act directs the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to set bold targets to reach and treat the most vulnerable populations for all forms of Tuberculosis (TB). The bill also addresses the impact COVID-19 has had on global TB control efforts and help the global health community save millions of lives.

TB is the second leading infectious disease killer in the world after COVID-19 and disproportionately affects impoverished and marginalized communities. Nearly all TB is preventable, treatable, and curable, but in 2020, over 10 million people fell ill with TB and 1.5 million people lost their lives. Over 95 percent of these cases and deaths were in low-income countries.

The End TB Now Act will make USAID's global TB programs more effective and strengthen U.S. bilateral coordination with global organizations, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria. The bill also increases research and development (R&D) of new tools to prevent, diagnose, treat, and control TB, including drug-resistant strains, and prioritizes the most affected communities worldwide. Additionally, the End TB Now Act requires rigorous monitoring and evaluation efforts and greater transparency and accountability.

The COVID-19 pandemic strained an already under-funded global TB system, reversing years of progress. Now, the Stop TB Partnership estimates that failing to implement ambitious goals will mean an additional 43 million people would develop TB, leading to 6.6 million additional TB deaths by 2030. In order to get back on track, we need Congress to take action by making our global health programs more effective and centered on marginalized communities. You can make a difference by asking your members of Congress to cosponsor this crucial bill.

TAKE Action: Write a letter to the editor, write to your members of Congress, engage others in writing letters, or ask a question at an election town hall

Consider organizing a group outreach activity by inviting RESULTS group members, Action Network members, and others who care about global health to write letters. [Find a sample Education & Action meeting agenda online.](#)

Personalize this sample letter or modify further to create a letter to the editor. The more your members of Congress hear from constituents, the more likely they will be to act.

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Subject: Please the Cosponsoring the End Tuberculosis Now Act

Engage: COVID-19 isn't the only contagion ravaging the globe. Tuberculosis (TB) has plagued humanity for generations, and it is the second leading infectious disease killer in the world after COVID-19.

State Problem: Even though it is preventable, treatable, and curable, TB takes the lives of 1.5 million people annually. It exploits and exacerbates poverty and disproportionately hurts the marginalized. And because TB and COVID19 are both airborne diseases, TB resources and expertise were re-allocated to address the COVID-19 pandemic, causing us to fall behind on reaching global TB goals.

Inform: But it's not a trade-off that has to continue. The End TB Now Act (S.3386/H.R.8654) are bipartisan bills directing USAID to set bold targets to reach and treat the most vulnerable populations for all forms of TB. We have a unique opportunity to set TB control and eradication goals back on track.

Call to Action: Will the senator/representative please co-sponsor the End TB Now Act and support its passage this year? Congress must act if we are to save more lives and resume progress on addressing TB as a disease of poverty.

Questions for townhall bird-dogging:

- Tuberculosis (TB) is the second leading infectious disease killer in the world after COVID-19 and disproportionately affects impoverished and marginalized communities. In 2020 alone, over 10 million people contracted TB and 1.5 million people lost their lives. Can I count on you to look at the End TB Now Act (S.3386/H.R.8654), cosponsor it, and help get it passed?
- The Stop TB Partnership estimates that failing to implement bold goals to prevent TB will lead to an additional 6.6 million TB deaths by 2030. This will cost countries, communities, and families upwards of \$1 trillion in economic loss by 2030. Will you take action by cosponsoring the End TB Now Act (S.3386/H.R.8654)?

Additional resources can be found on our [Fall 2022 Campaign Resources](#) page.