



THE AIDS INSTITUTE

National Office - Washington, DC: 202-835-8373
Administrative Office - Tampa, FL: 813-258-5929

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Press Statement

Contact: James Sykes, (202) 835-8373, JSykes@theaidsinstitute.org

The AIDS Institute Applauds the President's Renewed Efforts to Fight HIV/AIDS However, Structural Issues Still Need to be Addressed in PEPFAR Reauthorization

Washington, DC - This afternoon in the Rose Garden of the White House, President Bush is expected to announce that he will call on Congress to provide \$30 billion in the fight against HIV/ AIDS. This is an additional \$15 billion over the original authorizing level. The President's Emergency Plan to for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the largest commitment ever by any nation for an international health initiative dedicated to a single disease, would provide lifesaving treatment to approximately 2.5 million people – about 1.4 million more than it currently serves.

The AIDS Institute is encouraged by this bold step, but is mindful of the fact that an estimated \$45 billion would be needed by 2013 to double the number of people on treatment and to take a significant step toward reaching the goal of universal access to prevention, care and treatment by 2010. This commitment was made at the last G8 Summit.

This renewed and expanded commitment is praiseworthy, The AIDS Institute is also concerned that important issues such as the need for comprehensive and evidence-based prevention efforts need to be revisited as PEPFAR is reauthorized.

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For more information and to become involved in AIDS advocacy work, please contact
The AIDS Institute at: (202) 835-8373, or by email at: Info@theaidsinstitute.org or www.TheAIDSInstitute.org

*The AIDS Institute is a national nonprofit agency that promotes action for social change
through public policy research, advocacy and education.*