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## **Klein Speaks on House Floor In Support of Global HIV/AIDS Legislation**

**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Representative Ron Klein (FL-22) today spoke on the House floor to express strong support for H.R. 5501, the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act.

This bipartisan legislation to extend and expand a key initiative to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria around the globe passed the House today by a vote of 308-116.

The full text of Representative Klein's statement on the House floor follows.

"Thank you, Madame Chair. Members, I rise today in strong support of the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act.

"This legislation represents the best in bipartisan compromise. It demonstrates that despite what divides us from time to time as Republicans and Democrats, we can and do come together to tackle the issues that matter most – and the global HIV/AIDS crisis matters deeply to all of us. Some 40 million people around the world are living with this disease. We have a moral imperative to act, and act decisively.

"Just five short years ago, an HIV diagnosis for a poor villager in Africa was a death sentence. Thanks to lifesaving drugs provided by the American people, this is no longer the case. The global AIDS program works, and it works because it is an initiative not of one political party or the other. It is truly a compassionate statement by the American people, and I am very proud to support its reauthorization, and urge my colleges to do the same."