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**SCHAKOWSKY AMENDMENT ON AFFORDABLE AIDS DRUGS
INCLUDED IN WORLD BANK AIDS MARSHALL PLAN APPROVED BY HOUSE**

SCHAKOWSKY CALLS BILL "A SMALL STEP IN A LONG JOURNEY"

WASHINGTON, D.C. - While hailing the House action to approve the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act, U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today said that much more needs to be done in order to combat the worldwide AIDS epidemic.□

"Passing the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan is an important step.□ However, it is only a small step in a long journey to combat a disease that is killing millions, creating tens of millions of orphans, and threatening worldwide stability," said Schakowsky, who is a member of the House Banking Committee.

The bill, approved by the House Banking Committee last month, would create a worldwide trust fund that is administered by the World Bank and funded by governments, the private sector, and international organizations.□ Nations would be eligible to receive grants to address the HIV/AIDS crisis. The U.S. would contribute \$100 million a year for the next five years to the trust fund.□

The Banking Committee had approved a Schakowsky amendment by voice vote during committee debate last month.□ The amendment expands the objectives of the trust fund to include affordable HIV/AIDS prevention, education, treatment and affordable drugs.□ Schakowsky's amendment was included in the bill approved by the full House today.

In Congress, Schakowsky is actively□ promoting access to affordable AIDS drugs for Sub-Saharan African nations and other countries faced with the AIDS epidemic.□ Since taking office, she has been in close contact with Administration officials on this issue.□ Schakowsky recently joined the Vice President at an unprecedented meeting of the United Nations Security Council on AIDS.□ This was the first time that the Security Council considered a health epidemic as a worldwide security question.