



COVID-19 Public Health & Safety Legislative Update

Last Updated: November 12, 2020

The following legislative tracker provides an update on COVID-19 public health and safety-related bills introduced in the 116th Congress. Each of the listed bill numbers contains a hyperlink to the Congress.gov website for additional information

Bills by Issue

COVID I Public Health & Safety (108)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 14	Introduced In House 2020 10 30	In House
Title To increase the Federal commitment to defeating the virus that causes COVID-19 and prepare for future pandemics, and for other purposes.		Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Nov 5, 2020, 3:28 PM The Commitment to Defeat the Virus and Keep America Healthy Act is a targeted COVID-19 relief bill that includes provisions under the jurisdiction of the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Appropriations. The E&C provisions include: build on the work done by the administration to strengthen the Strategic National Stockpile to better respond to COVID-19 and future public health emergencies; ensure Americans, especially seniors, can access the care they need – whether it be mental health or telehealth services; strengthen critical domestic health care supply chains; improve public health infrastructure; address COVID-19 health disparities; and double down on our efforts to fight the opioid epidemic and substance abuse disorder crises.	
Primary Sponsors Richard Hudson		Introduction Date: 2020-10-30	
Organizational Notes Last edited by TFG Reports at Nov 5, 2020, 3:28 PM Press Release: https://hudson.house.gov/press-releases/hudson-introduces-comprehensive-covid19-relief-package/			

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 1646	Received In The Senate And Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2020 09 22	In Senate

Title
HERO Act

Description

Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act or the HERO Act
This bill establishes a series of programs relating to the behavioral health of public-safety officers (e.g., law enforcement officers, firefighters, ambulance crew members, and 9-1-1 operators) and health care providers. For example, the bill establishes (1) a public-safety officer suicide-reporting system at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (2) a grant program for peer-support behavioral health and wellness programs within fire departments and emergency medical services agencies, and (3) a grant program for behavioral health and wellness programs for health care providers.

Primary Sponsors

Ami Bera

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 16, 2020, 3:20 PM
Press Release: <https://bera.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-bera-s-helping-emergency-responders-overcome-hero-act-passed-by>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 16, 2020, 3:20 PM
The HERO Act would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to report to Congress each year on first responder suicide rates, including identifying risk factors, possible interventions, and recommended interventions for further study. It also requires HHS to develop and distribute best practices on the prevention and treatment of posttraumatic stress among first responders.

Introduction Date: 2019-03-08

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 5997	Introduced In House 2020 02 27	In House

Title
Emergency Response Coordinator Act of 2020

Description

Emergency Response Coordinator Act of 2020 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to designate an official within the department to coordinate federal efforts with respect to COVID-19 (a respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus).

Primary Sponsors

Eliot Engel

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 3:04 PM
The bill would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to designate an official within the Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate the efforts of Federal departments and agencies with respect to COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-02-27

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6509	Received In The Senate And Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2020 06 01	In Senate

Title
Public Safety Officer Pandemic Response Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Jerry Nadler

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 2:47 PM
The Public Safety Officer Pandemic Response Act of 2020 to ensure that public safety officers who contract COVID-19 are eligible for benefits should they become disabled or die from the virus.

Introduction Date: 2020-04-14

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 2:42 PM
Press Release: <https://nadler.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=394301>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6640	Referred To The Committee On Ways And Means And In Addition To The Committee On Energy And Commerce For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 04 28	In House

Title
Medicare Advantage COVID Treatment Act

Introduction Date: 2020-04-28

Description
Medicare Advantage COVID Treatment Act This bill requires Medicare Advantage (MA) plans to cover specified treatment services relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) without cost-sharing during the public health emergency declared on January 31, 2020. The CMS must reimburse MA plans for cost-sharing amounts that would otherwise have been received, in accordance with a specified timeline. MA plans are also prohibited from instituting prior authorization or other utilization management requirements with respect to coverage of specified critical treatment services (e.g., ventilator services and intensive care unit services).

Primary Sponsors
Debbie Mucarsel-Powell

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6649	Introduced In House 2020 05 01	In House

Title

Lower Drug Costs for Seniors During COVID-19 Act of 2020

Description

Lower Drug Costs for Seniors During COVID-19 Act of 2020 This bill requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to establish a process for prescription drug plans under Medicare and Medicare Advantage to allow enrollees to make coinsurance payments in periodic installments, if the enrollee chooses to obtain the entire prescribed supply of a covered drug in a single fill. Current law allows an enrollee, during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019), to obtain the entire prescribed supply of a covered drug in a single fill or refill, up to a 90-day supply.

Primary Sponsors

Jan Schakowsky

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 3:05 PM

Press Release: <https://schakowsky.house.gov/media/press-releases/schakowsky-chu-introduce-bill-help-medicare-beneficiaries-afford-prescription>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 3:05 PM
The Lower Drug Costs for Seniors During COVID-19 Act would allow Medicare Part D beneficiaries electing to receive 90-day prescription refills to spread their co-pays over the same 90-day period. This flexibility will be critical to help beneficiaries afford a three-month prescription and lower their out-of-pocket costs during the COVID-19 crisis, improving their lives and livelihood.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-01

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6650	Introduced In House 2020 05 01	In House

Title

Health Heroes 2020 Act

Introduction Date: 2020-05-01

Primary Sponsors

Jan Schakowsky

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6654	Introduced In House 2020 05 01	In House

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-01
Emergency COVID Telehealth Response Act

Description

Emergency COVID Telehealth Response Act This bill requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to allow, when exercising its waiver authority, the following providers to furnish telehealth services under Medicare during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019): physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, speech-language pathologists, clinical social workers, and audiologists. (Currently, the CMS is authorized to waive requirements for Medicare telehealth services during the public health emergency, and it has done so to allow all providers that are otherwise eligible to furnish in-person services under Medicare to also furnish telehealth services.)

Primary Sponsors

Cindy Axne

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6662	Referred To The Subcommittee On Economic Development Public Buildings And Emergency Management 2020 05 04	In House

Title
PRICE Act

Description

Pandemic Response and Interstate Cost Equity Act or the PRICE Act This bill establishes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as the sole buyer, vendor, owner, and distributor of certain medical equipment obtained by the federal government in the event of a national health emergency and establishes a process for the pricing and distribution of such equipment. Specifically, in the event of such an emergency, the Department of Health and Human Services shall assess available medical equipment and FEMA shall (1) become the sole owner and distributor of medical equipment obtained by the federal government for which the prevailing market price exceeds the fair market price by more than 15%, (2) contract with all persons capable of producing such equipment to produce such equipment, and (3) establish a price for such equipment and sell or otherwise distribute the equipment to the states or to persons that request it. The bill establishes in Congress a Joint Committee on Defense Production.

Primary Sponsors

Anthony Brown

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:51 PM
Press Release: <https://anthonybrown.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=899>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:50 PM
The Pandemic Response and Interstate Cost Equity (PRICE) Act would create a federal price-controlling program on critical COVID-19 equipment to ensure lower prices and guarantee supplies are directed to where they are needed most.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-01

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6666	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 05 01	In House

Title
COVID-19 Testing, Reaching, And Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act

Description
COVID-19 Testing, Reaching, And Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act
This bill authorizes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to award grants for testing, contact tracing, monitoring, and other activities to address COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). Entities such as federally qualified health centers, nonprofit organizations, and certain hospitals and schools are eligible to receive such grants. In awarding the grants, the CDC shall prioritize applicants that (1) operate in hot spots and medically underserved communities, and (2) agree to hire individuals from the communities where grant activities occur.

Primary Sponsors
Bobby Rush

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:52 PM
Press Release: <https://rush.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rush-introduces-bipartisan-legislation-to-fund-100-billion-coronavirus>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:52 PM
The COVID-19 Testing, Reaching and Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act would establish a grant program run by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to fully mobilize coronavirus testing and contact tracing efforts. Grantees would include Community Health Centers, School Based Health Centers, academic medical centers, non-profits, and other entities who would hire and train individuals to operate mobile testing units, as well as outreach in hot spots and medically underserved areas.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-01

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6670	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 05 01	In House

Title
Prescription for American Drug Independence Act of 2020

Description
Prescription for American Drug Independence Act of 2020
This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to (1) establish a committee of experts on drug-supply issues, (2) convene a symposium to recommend strategies for ending U.S. dependence on foreign manufacturing of critical drugs, and (3) report on the symposium's proceedings.

Primary Sponsors
Anna Eshoo

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:51 PM
Press Release: <https://eshoo.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-eshoo-and-brooks-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-create-national-strategy>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:54 PM
The Prescription for American Drug Independence Act would require the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to convene a committee of experts to analyze the impact of U.S. dependence on the manufacturing of lifesaving drugs and make recommendations to Congress within 90 days to ensure the U.S. has a diverse drug supply chain to adequately protect our country from natural or hostile occurrences.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-01

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6674	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committees On Ways And Means Education And Labor And Armed Services For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 01	In House

Title Medicare Crisis Program Act of 2020 **Introduction Date:** 2020-05-01

Description

Medicare Crisis Program Act of 2020 This bill makes a series of changes to health insurance coverage and requirements during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). For example, the bill makes several changes to Medicare and Medicare Advantage (MA) during the public health emergency. Among other things, the bill * allows all individuals who receive unemployment benefits, and their dependents, to enroll in Medicare if they otherwise do not have health insurance coverage; * eliminates cost-sharing for COVID-19 drugs and treatment services under Medicare and MA; * eliminates premiums under Medicare and caps overall cost-sharing under Medicare and MA; and * establishes a national clearinghouse for the purchase and distribution of COVID-19 personal protective equipment for Medicare providers. The bill also alters requirements under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and for private health insurers during the emergency. Among other things, the bill * requires coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and treatment services under Medicaid and CHIP without cost-sharing; * increases the Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) that is otherwise applicable during the public health emergency, including for states experiencing economic downturns (i.e., high unemployment); * requires private health insurers to cover COVID-19 treatment services without cost-sharing; and * requires federal payment to health care providers for the cost of COVID-19 treatment services that are provided to uninsured individuals, based on Medicare payment rates.

Primary Sponsors

Pramila Jayapal

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6698	Referred To The Committee On Ways And Means And In Addition To The Committee On Energy And Commerce For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 05	In House

Title

Quality Care for Nursing Home Residents and Workers During COVID-19 Act of 2020

Introduction Date: 2020-05-05

Description

Quality Care for Nursing Home Residents and Workers During COVID-19 Act of 2020 This bill modifies several requirements for Medicare skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and Medicaid nursing facilities (NFs) during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). Specifically, SNFs and NFs must comply with specified quality of care, worker safety, and transparency requirements, subject to civil penalties. Requirements include (1) testing residents and employees for COVID-19 weekly or before shifts, respectively, and reporting any lack of available testing kits on a daily basis; (2) providing at least two weeks of paid sick leave to each employee; and (3) reporting the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths, including demographic information, on a daily basis. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services must also distribute funds to allow states to establish strike teams that may be deployed to SNFs and NFs within 72 hours of three or more COVID-19 diagnoses to help separate those who have been exposed, supervise testing, and ensure enforcement of whistleblower protections, among other needs. Teams must include members of the National Guard, public health officials, medical experts, and representatives of residents and workers.

Primary Sponsors

Jan Schakowsky

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:48 PM

Press Release: <https://schakowsky.house.gov/media/press-releases/schakowsky-booker-blumenthal-task-force-aging-and-families-introduce-bicameral>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6699	Referred To The Committee On Education And Labor And In Addition To The Committees On Financial Services And Ways And Means For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 05	In House

Title
Opportunities for Heroes Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Annie Kuster

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:56 PM
The Opportunities for Heroes Act would provide \$25,000 in either student loan debt relief or education benefits to essential workers and their family members. The bill recognizes the contributions made by a diverse set of workers, including firefighters and first responders, health care providers, grocery store employees, transportation workers, and more, to help Americans through the COVID-19 health emergency.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-05

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:46 PM
<https://kuster.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/kuster-fitzpatrick-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-provide-student>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6701	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 05 05	In House

Title
Ensuring Understanding of COVID-19 to Protect Public Health Act

Description
Ensuring Understanding of COVID-19 to Protect Public Health Act
This bill requires the National Institutes of Health (NIH), in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to conduct a longitudinal study on the health impacts of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The NIH must provide public summaries of findings on specified timelines.

Primary Sponsors
Anna Eshoo

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:58 PM
The Ensuring Understanding of COVID-19 to Protect Public Health Act would direct the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct a longitudinal study on mild, moderate, and severe cases of COVID-19 to ensure a full understanding of both the short and long-term health impacts of the novel coronavirus.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-05

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:42 PM
Press Release: <https://eshoo.house.gov/media/press-releases/eshoo-burgess-degette-guthrie-introduce-bipartisan-bicameral-legislation-study>

Title

Coronavirus Frontline Workers Fair Pay Act

Description

Coronavirus Frontline Workers Fair Pay Act This bill provides hazard pay, in addition to regular pay, to specified health care and essential workers during calendar year 2020. Health care workers, which include physicians and support staff, among others, are eligible for a maximum of \$35,000 in aggregate hazard pay. Essential workers, as determined by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, are eligible for a maximum of \$25,000 in aggregate hazard pay. The Department of the Treasury must make payments to employers based on an employer's quarterly projections of the number of hours worked by eligible employees, including specified hours worked prior to the enactment of this bill. Employers must issue hazard payments to eligible employees not later than 14 days after receiving such payment from Treasury. The bill establishes and provides funding for the Coronavirus Essential and High-Risk Health Care Workers Hazard Payment Fund to implement this program.

Primary Sponsors

Matt Cartwright

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:45 PM

Press Release: <https://cartwright.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-cartwright-unveils-hazard-pay-proposal-for-essential-workers-on>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:46 PM

The Coronavirus Frontline Workers Fair Pay Act would provide hazard pay to health care professionals and other essential workers. The bill would establish a dedicated fund within the U.S. Treasury Department to provide the hazard pay money to employers. High-risk health care workers would receive a hazard pay increase of \$18.50 per hour, and other essential workers would receive an increase of \$13 per hour. Pay would be capped at \$35,000 and \$25,000, respectively. It would be retroactive to January 27, 2020 and would be available through the end of this year.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-05

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6711	Referred To The Committee On Financial Services And In Addition To The Committees On Transportation And Infrastructure Armed Services And Energy And Commerce For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 05	In House

Title Medical Supply Transparency and Delivery Act **Introduction Date:** 2020-05-05

Description

Medical Supply Transparency and Delivery Act This bill provides for the procurement and distribution of equipment and supplies needed to combat COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The bill sets forth responsibilities for the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including that the NRCC must (1) direct the national production and distribution of critical medical equipment and supplies; (2) communicate with states, local governments, and Native American tribes regarding the availability and delivery schedule of equipment and supplies; and (3) make specified information publicly available. The Department of Defense may detail members of the Armed Forces on active duty or civilian employees to support the NRCC. The President, using authorities provided under the Defense Production Act of 1950, must establish a fair and reasonable price for and procure needed equipment and supplies. The Government Accountability Office must annually submit a report to Congress assessing the Strategic National Stockpile. The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency shall designate an inspector general to oversee this bill's implementation.

Primary Sponsors

Jason Crow

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6719	Introduced In House 2020 05 05	In House

Title
Emergency Medical Supplies Procurement Act

Primary Sponsors
Ro Khanna

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:41 PM
The Emergency Medical Supplies Procurement Act provides an additional \$75 billion for the Trump administration to purchase or manufacture personal protective equipment (such as surgical masks, N-95 respirator masks, surgical gowns, and face visors); ventilators; testing reagents and compounds; approved vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, pharmaceuticals; and any other medical supplies or hospital infrastructure that are necessary. The bill would also require the Trump administration to respond to state requests for urgent and critical health care supplies as quickly and aggressively as possible using special authorities such as the DPA, National Emergencies Act, and Stafford Act.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-05

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:41 PM
Press Release: <https://khanna.house.gov/media/press-releases/sanders-khanna-unveil-emergency-legislation-vastly-increase-medical-equipment>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6727	Referred To The Committee On Ways And Means And In Addition To The Committees On Energy And Commerce And Armed Services For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 05	In House

Title
To hold Medicare beneficiaries harmless for specified COVID-19 treatment services furnished under part A or part B of the Medicare program.

Description
This bill requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to pay any required cost-sharing amounts for specified COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) treatment services for Medicare beneficiaries. Providers are prohibited from holding beneficiaries liable for such amounts. Additionally, the CMS may recoup amounts that would have been paid through a beneficiary's supplemental insurance from the applicable insurer, in accordance with specified procedures.

Primary Sponsors
Kim Schrier

Introduction Date: 2020-05-05

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6757	Referred To The Committee On Agriculture And In Addition To The Committee On The Budget For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 08	In House

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-08
Farm to Food Bank Enhancement Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Marcia Fudge

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6797	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 05 08	In House

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-08
CHIPPER Act

Description

Children's Health Insurance Program Pandemic Enhancement and Relief Act or the CHIPPER Act This bill extends the 11.5% increase to the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) that is otherwise applicable under the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) through FY2021, in accordance with specified conditions. For example, in order to receive the increased FMAP in FY2021, a state must cover, without cost-sharing, testing and treatment for COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019), including vaccines, specialized equipment, and therapies.

Primary Sponsors
Susan Wild

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6822	Introduced In House 2020 05 12	In House

Title
National Public Health Corps Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Chrissy Houlahan

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 14, 2020, 3:57 PM
The National Public Health Corps Act of 2020 would create a National Public Health Corps within Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to to ramp-up testing, contact tracing and, eventually, distributing vaccination. It would designate CDC and HHS as the partner agencies to support management and placement of Corps members with state and local health departments.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-12

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 14, 2020, 3:55 PM
Press Release: <https://houlahan.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=1592>

State
US

Bill Number
HR 6837

Last Action
Introduced In House 2020 05 12

Status
In House

Title

Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payments Improvement Act of 2020

Description

Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payments Improvement Act of 2020 This bill establishes and otherwise modifies requirements for the Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payment Program during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The program provides Medicare payments in advance to eligible providers experiencing claims or cash flow disruptions, such as during national emergencies; the program was specifically expanded in response to COVID-19 to encompass more types of providers, subject to certain recoupment and repayment provisions. Under the current program, recoupment of advance payments (through claims offsets) begins up to four months after the payment is made. Additionally, certain hospitals have one year to repay the full amount; other types of providers have seven months. Repayments made after this period are subject to the prevailing interest rate set by the Department of the Treasury (generally around 10% in FY2020). The bill delays recoupment for one year and caps the recoupment at 25% of a claim. The bill also gives all providers up to two years for full repayment and caps the interest rate at 1%. Additionally, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) may waive repayment entirely upon a demonstration of extreme hardship, among other factors. The bill also requires the CMS to continue to make the program available to providers of Medicare medical services for the duration of the public health emergency. (The CMS suspended the program for such providers on April 26, 2020.)

Primary Sponsors

Brad Schneider

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 14, 2020, 4:02 PM

Press Release: <https://schneider.house.gov/media/press-releases/schneider-kind-shaheen-bennet-introduce-legislation-fix-health-care-provider>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 14, 2020, 4:04 PM
The Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payments Improvement Act would fix a flawed Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) loan program to help health care providers respond to the financial pressures caused by COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the bill would lower participants' interest rate from 10.25% to 1% and extend the period of time providers have to repay the loans. It would also provide loan forgiveness in cases of extreme hardship, as well as restart this critical lifeline for Medicare Part B providers.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-12

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6849	Referred To The Committee On Ways And Means And In Addition To The Committee On Energy And Commerce For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 13	In House

Title
Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Act of 2020

Introduction Date: 2020-05-13

Description

Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Act of 2020 This bill provides statutory authority for the requirement that Medicare skilled nursing facilities and Medicaid nursing facilities report data regarding COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) preparedness, testing, infections, and deaths. Additionally, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services must publish on the Nursing Home Compare website certain demographic information, aggregated by state, with respect to COVID-19 infections and deaths in such facilities.

Primary Sponsors

Steve Horsford

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6877	Introduced In House 2020 05 14	In House

Title
To direct the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response to issue a report to Congress regarding all State, local, Tribal, and territorial requests for supplies from the Strategic National Stockpile related to COVID-19, and for other purposes.

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 21, 2020, 1:50 PM
The bill would require the federal official who oversees the Strategic National Stockpile to report to Congress on what each state requested and received from the stockpile during the COVID-19 crisis. This provision has been included in the HEROES Act.

Primary Sponsors

Elissa Slotkin

Introduction Date: 2020-05-14

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 21, 2020, 1:50 PM

Press Release: <https://slotkin.house.gov/media/press-releases/provisions-slotkin-s-made-america-legislation-incorporated-newest-relief>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6901	Introduced In House 2020 05 15	In House

Title
COVID-19 Testing Inventory Act

Description
COVID-19 Testing Inventory Act This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to share information on a public website about tests to diagnose COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) or detect the virus that causes the disease. The website must include, among other information, a list of testing sites and the number and type of diagnostic tests available for use in each state, territory, or tribe.

Primary Sponsors
Anna Eshoo

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 3:09 PM
Press Release: <https://eshoo.house.gov/media/press-releases/eshoo-introduces-legislation-directing-nation-s-top-health-agencies-publicly>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 3:10 PM
The COVID-19 Testing Inventory Act would direct the federal government to compile and publicly share real-time information about testing supply inventory and shortages. Companion legislation was introduced by Senators Tina Smith (D-MN), and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA).

Introduction Date: 2020-05-15

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6909	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2020 05 15	In House

Title
Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act of 2020

Description
Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act of 2020 This bill allows essential workers and their family members to file claims and receive compensation for harm or death suffered as a result of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). A Special Master appointed by the Department of Justice must review claims submitted and determine if a claimant is eligible for compensation, the extent of the harm to the claimant, and the amount of compensation to be awarded.

Primary Sponsors
Carolyn Maloney

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 21, 2020, 1:51 PM
Press Release: <https://maloney.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-maloney-nadler-king-and-sen-duckworth-unveil-legislation-to-create>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 21, 2020, 1:51 PM
The Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act would provide compensation for injuries to any individual, or their families, who are deemed an essential worker and required to leave their home to perform services and who have become ill or died as a result of COVID-19. The fund is modeled after the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF).

Introduction Date: 2020-05-15

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6952	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On Financial Services For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 19	In House

Title

To direct the President to appoint a Medical Supplies Response Coordinator to coordinate the efforts of the Federal Government regarding the supply and distribution of certain supplies and equipment relating to COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-19

Primary Sponsors

Brad Schneider

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6962	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On Ways And Means For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 05 22	In House

Title

Rural Hospital Sustainability Act

Description

Rural Hospital Sustainability Act This bill specifically allows the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test a model for global payments to hospitals in rural areas. Under the model, rural hospitals receive fixed, monthly payments from all participating payers (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, and private payers) for inpatient and outpatient services (rather than on a fee-for-service basis). In order to participate, hospitals must conduct a community health needs assessment survey and submit a transformation plan that incorporates the survey results and includes other specified information relating to the global payment model, including targeted populations, types of services, and anticipated Medicare savings.

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 26, 2020, 3:38 PM
The Rural Hospital Sustainability Act to provide financial stability to struggling rural hospitals, and maintain access to quality health care for rural Americans throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. It would expand upon an existing pilot program to allow states to voluntarily implement a global budget for rural hospitals in lieu of the existing fee-for-service model. Under this program, private and public insurers pay rural hospitals a fixed amount of revenue — a global budget — to cover all inpatient and hospital-based outpatient services.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-22

Primary Sponsors

Matt Cartwright

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 26, 2020, 3:38 PM

Press Release: <https://cartwright.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-cartwright-young-introduce-bipartisan-bill-to-support-rural>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6972	Introduced In House 2020 05 22	In House

Title

Nursing Home COVID-19 Protection and Prevention Act of 2020

Description

Nursing Home COVID-19 Protection and Prevention Act of 2020
This bill establishes several programs and requirements to address the outbreak of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) in skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, and psychiatric hospitals. Specifically, the bill provides specified funds for states to support cohorting (i.e., separating and grouping) individuals in such facilities based on COVID-19 status. States may use funds for specified items and activities, including testing kits, staffing, and facility development. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) must issue related guidance that includes, among other things, which facilities are permitted to cohort individuals and strategies for effective implementation; such guidance must account for certain factors, including a facility's compliance with Medicare and Medicaid requirements regarding infection control and emergency preparedness. The CMS must also provide monthly congressional briefings on the outbreak in these facilities and related agency actions.

Primary Sponsors

Anna Eshoo

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 2:55 PM

Press Release: <https://eshoo.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-eshoo-schakowsky-shalala-dean-and-moulton-introduce-bill-slow-spread-covid>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 2:55 PM
The Nursing Home COVID-19 Protection and Prevention Act would help states invest in "strike teams" of health care providers to assist when a COVID-19 outbreak occurs or "cohorting" to safely separate residents with COVID-19 from those who do not have the virus. The funding can also be used to increase staffing, testing, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to reduce infections from the virus.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-22

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 6999	Introduced In House 2020 05 22	In House

Title

Coronavirus Mental Health and Addiction Assistance Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors

Tim Ryan

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 26, 2020, 3:33 PM

Press Release: <https://timryan.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-ryan-katko-and-sens-klobuchar-young-introduce-legislation-support-mental>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 26, 2020, 3:32 PM
The Coronavirus Mental Health and Addiction Assistance Act directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to establish a Coronavirus Mental Health and Addiction Assistance Network. These grants would be available for eligible entities – including Indian tribes, qualified nonprofit organizations, and providers offering appropriate mental health and addiction services. It includes an emergency appropriation of \$100 million to initiate or expand programs offering mental health and substance use disorder services in response to the pandemic, including support groups, telephone helplines and websites, training programs, telehealth services, and outreach services.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-22

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7018	Introduced In House 2020 05 26	In House

Title
COVID-19 Emergency Production Act

Primary Sponsors
Mark Pocan

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 2:52 PM
The COVID-19 Emergency Production Act to require the President to use the Defense Production Act (DPA) to designate PPE, all testing supplies and any future COVID-19 vaccine as critical material essential to the national defense. It would direct materials to be produced and distributed to states and territories based on their requests for supplies and in proportion to their populations.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-26

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 2:52 PM
Press Release: <https://pocan.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/pocan-blunt-rochester-crist-introduce-covid-19-emergency-production-act>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7025	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 05 27	In House

Title
Diagnostic Testing for Public Health Labs Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Larry Bucshon

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 3:43 PM
The Diagnostic Testing for Public Health Labs Act would help public health laboratories purchase high-throughput diagnostic testing platforms, which simultaneously test thousands of samples using automation processes.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-27

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 3:44 PM
Press Release: <https://bucshon.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=3881>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7026	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 05 27	In House

Title
Rapid Testing for Communities Act of 2020

Description
Rapid Testing for Communities Act of 2020 This bill establishes a grant program for hospitals, primary care facilities, and other health care providers to purchase equipment and related materials to increase access to same-day diagnostic testing in point-of-care settings. In awarding these grants, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must prioritize recipients that provide services to medically underserved populations in rural areas.

Primary Sponsors
Diana DeGette

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 28, 2020, 3:51 PM
The Rapid Testing for Communities Act would help expand diagnostic testing to areas of the country, particularly rural and underserved areas, that lack quick access to a public health laboratory to process test results. Specifically, it would direct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to award grants to hospitals, physicians and other eligible health care providers to help perform coronavirus diagnostic testing outside of a laboratory setting.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-27

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7037	Introduced In House 2020 05 27	In House

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-27
To provide for quality assurance of COVID-19 reimbursements and reporting.

Description
This bill (1) establishes documentation requirements for testing, treatment, and reporting related to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019); and (2) makes it unlawful to knowingly report a false diagnosis of COVID-19. To receive a federal reimbursement for the cost of a COVID-19 diagnostic test or treatment, the request for reimbursement must document that the administered COVID-19 test has been approved, cleared, or authorized by the Food and Drug Administration. Further, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must exclude from its official COVID-19 case and death counts any person who tested positive and requested federal reimbursement without the required documentation. Additionally, any person who knowingly reports a false diagnosis of COVID-19 is subject to criminal fines and imprisonment for not more than 10 years.

Primary Sponsors
Bill Posey

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7080	Subcommittee Hearings Held 2020 06 30	In House

Title Introduction Date: 2020-06-01
Stopping the Mental Health Pandemic Act

Primary Sponsors
Katie Porter

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7113	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 06 04	In House

Title Introduction Date: 2020-06-04
COVID-19 Emergency Manufacturing Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Jan Schakowsky

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7179	Introduced In House 2020 06 11	In House

Title
Pandemic Liability Protection Act

Description
Pandemic Liability Protection Act This bill exempts certain health care and food providers from liability for any act or omission relating to harm arising from exposure to, or infection by, the coronavirus (i.e., the virus that causes COVID-19) during the COVID-19 public health emergency. However, this prohibition does not apply with respect to acts or omissions that constitute willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or conscious and flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed.

Primary Sponsors
Greg Murphy

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 15, 2020, 2:24 PM
Press Release: <https://gregmurphy.house.gov/media/press-releases/murphy-introduces-legislation-protect-small-business-owners>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 15, 2020, 2:23 PM
The Pandemic Liability Protection Act would protect covered providers who have operated during the Coronavirus outbreak from state and federal lawsuits related to harm that arose from COVID-19. The following would qualify as covered providers: nursing homes, health care clinics, pharmacies, hospitals, outpatient centers, blood donation centers, urgent care centers, farms, fisheries, food processing plants, food packaging plants, restaurants and grocery stores.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-11

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7187	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On Ways And Means For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 06 11	In House

Title
HEALTH Act of 2020

Description
Helping Ensure Access to Local TeleHealth Act of 2020 or the HEALTH Act of 2020 This bill modifies requirements relating to Medicare coverage of telehealth services that are furnished by federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs). Specifically, the bill permanently allows FQHCs and RHCs to serve as the distant site (i.e., the location of the health care practitioner) for telehealth services and excludes such services from certain geographic restrictions. Payment must be made in the same manner as for non-telehealth services, rather than in accordance with a separate methodology determined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Primary Sponsors
G.T. Thompson

Organizational Notes

Last edited by David Hoover at Jun 15, 2020, 2:51 PM
Press Release: <https://thompson.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/thompson-butterfield-introduce-health-act>

Bill Summary: Last edited by David Hoover at Jun 15, 2020, 2:51 PM
The HEALTH Act seeks to extend benefits and access of this critical healthcare medium to more seniors, regardless of their geographic location.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-11

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7208	Introduced In House 2020 06 15	In House

Title
PPP Access for Rural Hospitals Act

Description
PPP Access for Rural Hospitals Act This bill includes within the Paycheck Protection Program, established to support small businesses in response to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019), certain rural hospitals or hospitals serving low-income patients that are designated as critical care hospitals.

Primary Sponsors
Michael Guest

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 18, 2020, 3:07 PM
Press Release: <https://guest.house.gov/media/press-releases/legislation-support-rural-hospitals-introduced-house>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 18, 2020, 3:07 PM
The PPP Access for Rural Hospitals Act would allow smaller hospitals that are part of a larger health system to waive affiliation requirements to be eligible for the PPP. The language is narrowly tailored to ensure rural hospitals or those in most need are able to participate in the PPP program.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-15

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7233	Introduced In House 2020 06 18	In House

Title
KEEP Telehealth Options Act of 2020

Description
Knowing the Efficiency and Efficacy of Permanent Telehealth Options Act of 2020 or the KEEP Telehealth Options Act of 2020 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report on the availability and effects of expanded telehealth services under Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). Among other information, HHS must detail its actions during the emergency to expand access to telehealth services and must analyze telehealth usage by certain demographic groups. The GAO must report on the efficiency and management of the telehealth expansion and related risks of fraudulent activity.

Primary Sponsors
Troy Balderson

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 22, 2020, 2:54 PM
Press Release: <https://balderson.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=1740>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 22, 2020, 2:53 PM
The KEEP Telehealth Options Act would instruct the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Government Accountability Office (GAO) to study and report to United States Congress on the expansion of telehealth services during the COVID-19 outbreak, the uptake of those services by patients across the country, and GAO's recommendations for enhancing the quality of and access to these services.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-18

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7288	Referred To The Subcommittee On Health 2020 09 30	In House

Title
Taxpayer Research and Coronavirus Knowledge Act of 2020

Introduction Date: 2020-06-22

Primary Sponsors
Lloyd Doggett

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7317	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 06 24	In House

Title
Masks Work Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Adam Schiff

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 25, 2020, 3:33 PM
The Masks Work Act would direct the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to establish a program to mail a cloth face covering to any American who requests one, free of charge,

Introduction Date: 2020-06-24

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7391	Introduced In House 2020 06 26	In House

Title
Protect Telehealth Access Act of 2020

Description
Protect Telehealth Access Act of 2020 This bill modifies requirements relating to coverage of telehealth services under Medicare. Specifically, the bill removes restrictions that require the originating site (i.e., the location of the beneficiary) to be in a rural area, and allows the home of a beneficiary to serve as the originating site for all services (rather than for only certain services).

Primary Sponsors
Mikie Sherrill

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 29, 2020, 3:46 PM
The Protect Telehealth Access Act codifies Medicare reimbursements for telehealth services by removing the requirement that (1) an individual receiving telehealth services must be located in a rural area or health professional shortage area, and (2) an individual may only receive telehealth services at home in certain limited circumstances.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-26

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 29, 2020, 3:46 PM
Press Release: <https://sherrill.house.gov/media/press-releases/sherrill-hern-introduce-legislation-expand-telehealth-access-medicare>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7463	Introduced In House 2020 07 01	In House

Title
Assisted Living Facility Coronavirus Reporting Act

Primary Sponsors
Carolyn Maloney

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 13, 2020, 2:47 PM
The Assisted Living Facility Coronavirus Reporting Act would put in place national data collection and reporting requirements to ensure that assisted living facilities adequately protect residents from COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-01

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 13, 2020, 2:46 PM
Press Release: <https://oversight.house.gov/news/press-releases/warren-maloney-markey-release-findings-from-first-comprehensive-survey-of-covid>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7472	Introduced In House 2020 07 01	In House

Title
Secure Data and Privacy for Contact Tracing Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Jackie Speier

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 6, 2020, 2:54 PM
The Secure Data and Privacy for Contact Tracing Act of 2020 would provide grants to states that choose to use technology as part of contact tracing efforts for COVID-19 if they agree to adopt strong privacy protections for users.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-01

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 6, 2020, 2:54 PM
Press Release: <https://speier.house.gov/press-releases?ID=EA0CED08-6BED-463A-9647-4D4F0404BCB8>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7546	Introduced In House 2020 07 09	In House

Title
Minority Community Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
John Lewis

Introduction Date: 2020-07-09

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7607	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 07 13	In House

Title
Masks for All Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Freddi Wilson

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 16, 2020, 3:20 PM
The Masks for All Act would require the use of face masks in all public spaces and outside when one cannot maintain a physical distance of six feet or more from anyone who is not a member of the same household. The legislation also calls for increased funding to states through grants to promote universal access to face masks as an emergency response to the national coronavirus pandemic.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-13

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 16, 2020, 3:20 PM
Press Release: <https://wilson.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/wilson-introduces-the-masks-for-all-act>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7628	Introduced In House 2020 07 16	In House

Title
COVID-19 Victims Compensation Fund Act

Description
COVID-19 Victims Compensation Fund Act This bill allows individuals to file claims and receive compensation for harm or death suffered as a result of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). A Special Master appointed by the Department of Health and Human Services must review claims submitted and determine if a claimant is eligible for compensation, the extent of the harm to the claimant, and the amount of compensation to be awarded.

Primary Sponsors
Adriano Espaillat

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 20, 2020, 2:52 PM
The COVID-19 Victims Compensation Fund Act would create a fund modeled on the 9/11 Victims Compensation Fund to provide financial relief to those who fell ill from or the families of those lost to COVID-19. The bill would allow individuals and families to receive compensation for both economic costs due to loss of employment, medical expenses, and loss of business, as well as provide for physical and emotional pain and suffering inflicted by COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-16

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7663	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On Ways And Means For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 07 16	In House

Title

Protecting Access to Post-COVID-19 Telehealth Act of 2020

Description

Protecting Access to Post-COVID-19 Telehealth Act of 2020 This bill modifies requirements relating to coverage of telehealth services under Medicare. Specifically, the bill (1) authorizes the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to generally waive coverage restrictions during national emergencies, (2) allows rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers to serve as the distant site (i.e., the location of the health care practitioner), (3) removes restrictions that require the originating site (i.e., the location of the beneficiary) to be in a rural area, and (3) allows the home of a beneficiary to serve as the originating site for all services (rather than for only certain services). Additionally, the CMS must report on the utilization of telehealth services specifically during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019).

Primary Sponsors

Mike Thompson

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 20, 2020, 3:31 PM

Press Release: <https://mikethompson.house.gov/newsroom/press-releases/thompson-welch-johnson-schweikert-matsui-introduce-the-protecting-access-to>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 20, 2020, 3:32 PM
The Protecting Access to Post-Covid-19 Telehealth Act would continue the expanded use of telehealth beyond the Coronavirus pandemic by eliminating restrictions on the use in Medicare, providing a bridge for patients currently using the practices because of the crisis, and requiring a study on the use of telehealth during COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-16

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7674	Introduced In House 2020 07 20	In House

Title

COVID-19 Data Transparency Act

Primary Sponsors

Don Beyer

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:18 PM
The COVID-19 Data Transparency Act would codify standards for state, tribal, and local health departments to report statistical information to the Centers For Disease Control (CDC), and require CDC to share that information with the public. Key reporting metrics would include: daily numbers of hospitalizations of patients with COVID-19; daily numbers of diagnostic and serological tests administered for SARS-CoV-2 with respect to patients in the respective jurisdiction, disaggregated by the type of test, testing positivity rate, sensitivity and specificity of each type of test; and Daily numbers and percentages of contacts traced, and the rate of transmission of SARS-CoV-2.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-20

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:19 PM

Press Release: <https://beyer.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=4878>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7692	Introduced In House 2020 07 20	In House

Title
Reopen Schools Safely Act

Description
Reopen Schools Safely Act This bill requires the Department of Education (ED) to award grants to states and, through them, subgrants to local educational agencies and institutions of higher education to comply with the guidelines, recommendations, and other public health communications issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and local governments to mitigate the hazards of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) in schools. Subgrants must be used for certain activities, such as implementing exposure control plans, hiring personnel and purchasing equipment for health screenings, providing students and staff with personal protective equipment, and purchasing sanitation supplies. Unexpended funds must be returned to ED. Additionally, unused supplies and materials that were purchased with grants may not be resold.

Primary Sponsors
Dina Titus

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:26 PM
Press Release: <https://titus.house.gov/press-releases/rep-titus-introduces-bill-to-provide-k-12-schools-and-colleges-90-billion-in-pandemic>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:25 PM
The Reopen Schools Safely Act would establish a temporary fund to help school districts and colleges meet CDC guidelines for mitigating the spread of COVID-19. A variety of authorized expenses are included, such as: hiring additional school health personnel; purchasing equipment necessary for temperature screenings; and purchasing certified COVID-19 diagnostic and serological tests.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-20

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7695	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On Ways And Means For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 07 21	In House

Title
COVID-19 Emergency Telehealth Impact Reporting Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
John Curtis

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:14 PM
Press Release: <https://curtis.house.gov/press-releases/curtis-welch-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-assess-impact-of-covid-19-telehealth-policies/>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:14 PM
The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Act would require the US Department of Health and Human Services to assess key health care metrics, including utilization rates and hospital readmission rates, for patients who received their health care through expanded telehealth programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-21

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7710	Sponsor Introductory Remarks On Measure Cr H 3670 2020 07 22	In House

Title
Open Schools Responsibly Act

Description
Open Schools Responsibly Act This bill limits civil liability for elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education relating to any harm arising from exposure to, or infection by, coronavirus (i.e., the virus that causes COVID-19) suffered by a student, employee, or visitor. Specifically, a school or institution shall not be liable for such harm if the school or institution was in compliance with applicable state and federal guidelines. However, a school or institution may be liable for acts or omissions that constitute willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed.

Primary Sponsors
Greg Murphy

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:12 PM
Press Release: <https://gregmurphy.house.gov/media/press-releases/murphy-introduces-legislation-financially-protect-schools-amid-covid-19>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:11 PM
The Open Schools Responsibly Act would protect academic institutions from lawsuits and economic penalties related to contracting and transmitting COVID-19 upon returning to school for the 2020-2021 academic school year, so long as schools follow their state's and the CDC's health guidelines.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-21

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7760	Introduced In House 2020 07 23	In House

Title
To make a supplemental appropriation for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program of the Federal Communications Commission for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

Description
This bill provides FY2020 supplemental appropriations to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. Under the program, the FCC provides funding for health care providers to purchase telecommunications services, information services, and devices necessary to provide critical connected care services during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) pandemic. The bill designates the funding as emergency spending, which is exempt from discretionary spending limits.

Primary Sponsors
Abigail Spanberger

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 27, 2020, 2:38 PM
Press Release: <https://spanberger.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=3110>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 27, 2020, 2:37 PM
The COVID-19 Telehealth Program Extension Act would provide an additional \$200 million in funding for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. This funding level is equal to the amount initially passed by Congress through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act earlier this year.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-23

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7801	Referred To The Subcommittee On Economic Development Public Buildings And Emergency Management 2020 07 28	In House

Title
Pandemic Community Reserve and Public Health Response Act

Primary Sponsors
Marcia Fudge

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 30, 2020, 2:59 PM
The Pandemic Community Reserve and Public Health Response Act would expand the capacity for state, local and Tribal public health departments to combat COVID-19. The bill would ensure the country's public health infrastructure is capable of adequately testing, tracing, and treating COVID-19 by strengthening participation in existing health reserve programs and establishing, recruiting and training a new Pandemic Community Reserve Corps.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-27

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 30, 2020, 3:00 PM
Press Release: <https://fudge.house.gov/press-statements/rep-fudge-introduces-pandemic-community-reserve-and-public-health-response-act/>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7875	Introduced In House 2020 07 30	In House

Title
Equal Opportunity First Amendment Act

Description
Equal Opportunity First Amendment Act This bill requires states and local governments to enforce orders limiting public gatherings under emergency declarations equally. Specifically, the bill (1) prohibits states and units of local government that issue orders that limit gatherings to a certain number of people pursuant to a national emergency or similar state emergency declaration from discriminating in the enforcement of such order, in the case of persons who are exercising a right protected under the First Amendment; and (2) authorizes a private right of action in U.S. district court by a person who is harmed by a violation of this provision.

Primary Sponsors
Kevin Hern

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 20, 2020, 2:39 PM
The Equal Opportunity First Amendment Act would address disparity between decisions made to ban certain First Amendment-protected activities under State of Emergency but not others. During the COVID-19 pandemic, protesters across the country have been allowed to exercise their First Amendment right to assemble and protest, but most churches have been restricted from assembly and services. Certain local and state governments have enforced disproportionate strict social distancing guidelines to different cases in violation of individuals' First Amendment rights.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-30

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 20, 2020, 2:40 PM
Press Release: <https://hern.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=227>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7893	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 07 31	In House

Title

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Support During COVID-19 Act

Description

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Support During COVID-19 Act
This bill requires the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to award grants to states and territories for outreach, treatment, and other activities to address increased mental health and substance abuse issues associated with the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) pandemic.

Primary Sponsors

Bryan Steil

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 13, 2020, 3:10 PM

Press Release: <https://steil.house.gov/media/press-releases/steil-hosts-children-s-mental-health-forum-introduces-mental-health-and>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 13, 2020, 3:10 PM
The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Support During COVID-19 Act would establish a new grant program within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Grants would be awarded to states to provide additional mental health and substance abuse resources.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-31

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7904	Referred To The Subcommittee On Coast Guard And Maritime Transportation 2020 08 03	In House

Title

Critical Infrastructure Employee Protection Act of 2020

Description

Critical Infrastructure Employee Protection Act of 2020
This bill requires the Department of Transportation to support state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions in providing (1) priority COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) testing for essential critical infrastructure employees; and (2) priority access to personal protective equipment, sanitizers, face coverings, and health-related or protective supplies necessary to safely perform essential critical infrastructure work. (Essential critical infrastructure employees include, but are not limited to, medical and health care, telecommunications, information technology systems, defense, food and agriculture, transportation and logistics, energy, water and wastewater, law enforcement, and public works.)

Primary Sponsors

Rick Crawford

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 3, 2020, 3:17 PM

Press Release: <https://crawford.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=399390>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 3, 2020, 3:16 PM
The Critical Infrastructure Employee Protection Act of 2020 would require the Department of Transportation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to coordinate to ensure that critical infrastructure workers have access to Personal Protective Equipment and COVID-19 testing.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-31

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 7983	Introduced In House 2020 08 07	In House

Title
COVID-19 in Corrections Data Transparency Act

Primary Sponsors
Ayanna Pressley

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 10, 2020, 2:39 PM
The COVID-19 In Corrections Data Transparency Act would require the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the United States Marshals Service (USMS), and state and local correctional facilities to collect and publicly report detailed data about the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in federal, state, and local correctional facilities.

Introduction Date: 2020-08-07

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 10, 2020, 2:40 PM
Press Release: <https://pressley.house.gov/media/press-releases/pressley-warren-garc-clark-kelly-murray-booker-introduce-covid-19-corrections>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8017	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 08 11	In House

Title
MOTION Act

Description
Mobile Options for Testing In Our Neighborhoods Act or the MOTION Act This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to award grants within 120 days to, among others, specified health facilities, governmental health departments, and nonprofits for establishing or maintaining mobile testing programs for COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) and the virus that causes it. In awarding these grants, HHS must take into account certain state-based plans for COVID-19 testing and give priority to applicants that serve communities with limited access to transportation, medically underserved populations, and areas with shortages of health professionals.

Primary Sponsors
Debbie Mucarsel-Powell

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 20, 2020, 2:39 PM
Press Release: <https://mucarsel-powell.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=671>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 20, 2020, 2:39 PM
The Mobile Options for Testing In Our Neighborhoods (MOTION) Act would authorize \$400 million to bring coronavirus testing to communities that are medically underserved. The MOTION Act prioritizes communities that remain inaccessible to traditional testing locations, such as those in rural areas and communities which may face transportation barriers. This legislation would provide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with essential funding to partner with local organizations, including community health centers, to provide the resources needed to conduct mobile testing.

Introduction Date: 2020-08-11

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8073	Introduced In House 2020 08 21	In House

Title
Improving COVID-19 Data Transparency Act

Primary Sponsors
Don Beyer

Introduction Date: 2020-08-21

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8192	Referred To The Committee On Appropriations And In Addition To The Committee On The Budget For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 09 08	In House

Title
COVID Community Care Act

Primary Sponsors
Barbara Lee

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 10, 2020, 1:38 PM
The COVID Community Care Act to establish a contact tracing program through community-based organizations and non-profits. The legislation would provide \$8.4 billion in grants for community-based organizations and non-profits to conduct contact tracing and outreach activities in communities with higher rates of COVID-19, high percentage of minority residents, or who have historically lacked access to the health care system. The bill would require that persons hired to conduct engagement have experience and relationships with the people living in the communities they serve.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-08

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 10, 2020, 1:38 PM
Press Release: https://lee.house.gov/news/press-releases/rep-lee-bass-kelly-chu-castro-haaland-davids-introduce-legislation-to-provide-covid-19-resources-to-community-based-organizations-in-underserved-communities_-

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8200	Introduced In House 2020 09 11	In House

Title
To improve the health of minority individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

Primary Sponsors
Robin Kelly

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 14, 2020, 2:53 PM
The Ending Health Disparities during COVID-19 (EHDC) Act includes important COVID-19 testing and insurance access provisions. Specifically, the bill would: increase testing for the virus among medically underserved populations; ensure that federal agencies and state governments are capturing health data related to inequities; provide COVID-19 treatment at no cost; create a national COVID-19 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Task Force; and provide additional opportunities for those without health insurance to enroll.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-11

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8325	Introduced In House 2020 09 21	In House

Title
Operation Feed Our Kids Act

Description
Operation Feed Our Kids Act This bill extends authority through December 31, 2021, for the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to issue waivers of requirements under the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the summer food service program for children due to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). Under current law, such waiver authority expires on September 30, 2020. Additionally, USDA must extend through at least the end of the 2020-2021 school year all of the child nutrition waivers granted under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that as of September 11, 2020, were set to expire on December 31, 2020.

Primary Sponsors
Rodney Davis

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 24, 2020, 2:38 PM
Press Release: <https://rodneydavis.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=403909>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 24, 2020, 2:40 PM
The Operation Feed Our Kids Act extends the USDA child nutrition waiver authority provided under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), which will lapse on 9/30/2020, to 12/31/2021. This authority allows all child and adult care centers to operate as non-congregate; allows USDA to waive meal pattern requirements; provides authority to issue nationwide school meal waivers that helps eliminate paperwork for states so schools can quickly adopt and utilize flexibilities.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-21

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8358	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 09 23	In House

Title
National Coronavirus Commission Act of 2020

Description
National Coronavirus Commission Act of 2020 This bill establishes, in the legislative branch, the Commission on the Coronavirus Pandemic in the United States and sets forth its powers, duties, funding, and membership. Among other activities, the commission shall investigate the facts and circumstances of the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) pandemic and make recommendations on preventing a similar outbreak from occurring in the future. The commission terminates 120 days after the submission of its final report.

Primary Sponsors
Tom Malinowski

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 24, 2020, 3:20 PM
Press Release: <https://malinowski.house.gov/media/press-releases/representative-malinowski-introduces-bipartisan-bill-create-independent-911>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 24, 2020, 3:19 PM
The National Coronavirus Commission Act of 2020 would create an independent, non-partisan commission, closely modeled after the 9/11 Commission that investigated the September 11, 2001 terror attacks, to assess the nation's preparedness and response to COVID-19 and provide recommendations to improve our country's readiness for future epidemics and pandemics.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-23

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8395	Introduced In House 2020 09 24	In House

Title
COVID-19 Disinformation Research and Reporting Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Jennifer Wexton

Bill Summary: Last edited by David Hoover at Sep 28, 2020, 2:45 PM
The COVID-19 Disinformation Research and Reporting Act would examine the role of disinformation and misinformation on the public response to COVID-19 and the role that social media has in promoting the spread of false information. The bill authorizes \$1 million to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to partner with the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (National Academies) to conduct a study.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-24

Organizational Notes

Last edited by David Hoover at Sep 28, 2020, 2:43 PM
Press Release: <https://wexton.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=401>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8508	Referred To The House Committee On Financial Services 2020 10 02	In House

Title
COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Production Act

Primary Sponsors
Charlie Crist

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 5, 2020, 2:39 PM
The COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Production Act would require the President to use the Defense Production Act (DPA) to mobilize manufacturers and resources needed to produce the medical supplies necessary to quickly distribute a future COVID-19 vaccine.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-02

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 5, 2020, 2:39 PM
Press Release: <https://crist.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2185>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8526	Referred To The Subcommittee On Aviation 2020 10 05	In House

Title
HSAT Act

Description

Health Smart Air Travel Act or the HSAT Act This bill directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to establish a pilot program to improve the application of public health risk mitigation measures related to the public health risks presented by COVID-19 (i.e. coronavirus disease 2019) in airports and on passenger aircraft. DOT may provide grants under the program to states, commercial airlines, airports, public health institutions, and other entities to carry out development, testing, or evaluation of such public health risk mitigation measures. DOT, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must each designate federal facilities for receiving, processing, and analyzing data collected and experience gained by recipients of grants under the program. DOT, DHS, and HHS must use the data collected and experience gained to (1) jointly identify technical, regulatory, or policy challenges to the integration of public health risk mitigation measures related to the public health risks created by COVID-19 in airports and on passenger aircraft; and (2) inform ongoing initiatives by the Federal Aviation Administration, the Transportation Security Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop operational standards and procedures to mitigate such public health risks.

Primary Sponsors

Jeff Van Drew

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 8, 2020, 3:04 PM

Press Release: <https://vandrew.house.gov/media/press-releases/congressman-van-drew-introduces-health-smart-air-travel-pilot-program>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 8, 2020, 3:04 PM
The Health Smart Air Travel Act (HSAT), HR 8526 would stimulate development of new technologies that mitigate virus transmission in airports and passenger aircraft.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-02

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8555	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2020 10 09	In House

Title
Vaccine Fairness Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors

Angie Craig

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 15, 2020, 2:22 PM
The COVID-19 Vaccine Fairness Act would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to provide weekly updates on the Administration's efforts to ensure a transparent and equitable vaccine distribution process.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-09

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 15, 2020, 2:22 PM

Press Release: <https://craig.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-angie-craig-introduces-bill-ensuring-equitable-covid-19-vaccine>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8574	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On Ways And Means For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2020 10 09	In House

Title
PROTECT Long Term Care Facilities Act

Primary Sponsors
Mikie Sherrill

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 22, 2020, 2:51 PM
The Promoting Restoration of Emergency Preparedness and Advancing Response to Epidemics in Long-Term Care Act (PREPARE LTC Act) codifies statutes to confirm and restore critical regulations regarding infection control and emergency preparedness in skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities. The legislation requires facilities to establish and maintain an infection prevention and control program and an emergency plan that ensures a proper response during an emergency situation.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-09

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 22, 2020, 2:51 PM
Press Release: <https://sherrill.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-pascrell-sherrill-introduce-legislation-improve-pandemic-response-increase>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8642	Introduced In House 2020 10 20	In House

Title
Safe Testing at Residence Telehealth Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
David Schweikert

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 22, 2020, 2:51 PM
The Safe Testing at Residence Telehealth (START) Act would provide robust at-home COVID-19 testing for seniors and other vulnerable populations. It would amend the Social Security Act by adding coverage and payment for Medicare beneficiaries to receive U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved at-home tests. The approved tests would help diagnose or discount a diagnosis of COVID-19 or other similar respiratory infection and be done in conjunction with an assistive telehealth consultation.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-20

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 22, 2020, 2:51 PM
Press Release: <https://schweikert.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/schweikert-rush-kelly-thompson-introduce-safe-testing-residence>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	HR 8702	Introduced In House 2020 10 30	In House

Title

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an increase in payment under part B of the Medicare program for certain services in response to COVID-19.

Primary Sponsors

Ami Bera

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Nov 5, 2020, 3:28 PM
The Holding Providers Harmless From Medicare Cuts During COVID-19 Act of 2020 would ensure payments to critical relief physicians responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, who are scheduled to receive Medicare payment cuts next year, would be kept stable at 2020 levels for the next two years.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-30

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Nov 5, 2020, 3:28 PM

<https://bera.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rebs-bera-and-bucshon-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-stop-physician>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3564	Introduced In Senate 2020 03 22	In Senate

Title

Ensuring Treatment for COVID Act

Description

Ensuring Treatment for COVID Act This bill requires state Medicaid programs to cover treatment for COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). State Medicaid programs must also cover COVID-19 testing and treatment for uninsured individuals. (Currently, state Medicaid programs are required to cover COVID-19 testing for enrollees and have the option to cover testing for uninsured individuals.) Coverage must be provided with no cost-sharing. Additionally, state Medicaid programs may not impose cost-sharing for COVID-19 vaccines.

Primary Sponsors

Bob Casey

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 3:04 PM
The bill would amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require States to provide medical assistance for COVID-19 treatment services for individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19..

Introduction Date: 2020-03-22

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3595	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2020 05 04	In Senate

Title

Ensuring Understanding of COVID-19 to Protect Public Health Act

Description

Ensuring Understanding of COVID-19 to Protect Public Health Act
This bill requires the National Institutes of Health (NIH), in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to conduct a longitudinal study on the health impacts of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The NIH must provide public summaries of findings on specified timelines.

Primary Sponsors

Jacky Rosen

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:50 PM

Press Release: <https://www.rosen.senate.gov/rosen-rubio-introduce-bipartisan-bicameral-legislation-study-full-health-impacts-covid-19>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:50 PM
The Ensuring Understanding of COVID-19 to Protect Public Health Act would direct the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct a longitudinal study on mild, moderate, and severe cases of COVID-19 to ensure a full understanding of both the short and long-term health impacts of the novel coronavirus.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-04

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3607	Became Public Law No 116 157 2020 08 14	Enacted

Title

Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020

Description

Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020 This bill extends death and disability benefits under the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program (PSOB) to public safety officers (e.g., law enforcement officers) and survivors of public safety officers who die or become injured as a result of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The PSOB program provides death, disability, and education benefits to public safety officers and survivors of public safety officers who are killed or injured in the line of duty. For purposes of death benefits, this bill creates a general presumption that a public safety officer who dies from COVID-19 or related complications sustained a personal injury in the line of duty. For purposes of disability benefits, the bill creates a general presumption that COVID-19 or related complications suffered by a public safety officer constitutes a personal injury sustained in the line of duty.

Primary Sponsors

Chuck Grassley

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 11, 2020, 2:49 PM

Press Release: <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/bipartisan-senate-bill-helps-families-first-responders-lost-covid-access-public-0>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Nov 10, 2020, 9:28 PM
The Safeguarding America's First Responders (SAFR) Act would clarify the certification requirements for survivor benefits under the Public Safety Officers Benefits Program to account for the unique challenges presented by the pandemic. The PSOB program provides death, disability, and education benefits to public safety officers and survivors of public safety officers who are killed or injured in the line of duty. For purposes of death benefits, this bill creates a general presumption that a public safety officer who dies from COVID-19 or related complications sustained a personal injury in the line of duty. For purposes of disability benefits, the bill creates a general presumption that COVID-19 or related complications suffered by a public safety officer constitutes a personal injury sustained in the line of duty.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-05

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3609	Introduced In Senate 2020 05 05	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-05
Coronavirus Immigrant Families Protection Act

Primary Sponsors
Mazie Hirono

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3627	Introduced In Senate 2020 05 06	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-06
Medical Supply Transparency and Delivery Act

Description
Medical Supply Transparency and Delivery Act This bill provides for the procurement and distribution of equipment and supplies needed to combat COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The bill sets forth responsibilities for the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including that the NRCC must (1) direct the national production and distribution of critical medical equipment and supplies; (2) communicate with states, local governments, and Native American tribes regarding the availability and delivery schedule of equipment and supplies; and (3) make specified information publicly available. The Department of Defense may detail members of the armed forces on active duty or civilian employees to support the NRCC. The President, using authorities provided under the Defense Production Act of 1950, must establish a fair and reasonable price for and procure needed equipment and supplies. The Government Accountability Office must annually submit a report to Congress assessing the Strategic National Stockpile. The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency shall designate an inspector general to oversee this bill's implementation.

Primary Sponsors
Tammy Baldwin

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3630	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2020 05 06	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-06
Facilitating Innovation to Fight Coronavirus Act

Description

Facilitating Innovation to Fight Coronavirus Act This bill provides immunity from civil liability to health care providers for certain actions taken during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency and lengthens the terms of certain medical patents related to the treatment of COVID-19. Specifically, when testing for or treating COVID-19 during the public health emergency, a health care provider may not be held liable in any federal, state, or local civil proceeding for (1) using or modifying a medical device for an unapproved use or indication; (2) practicing without a license or outside of an area of specialty, if instructed to do so by an individual with such a license or within such an area of speciality; or (3) conducting the testing of, or providing treatment to, a patient outside of the premises of standard health care facilities. Additionally, certain medical patents that are issued with respect to the treatment of COVID-19 are deemed not to begin until the termination of the presidential emergency declaration relating to COVID-19 and are extended for an additional 10 years.

Primary Sponsors

Ben Sasse

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3651	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Agriculture Nutrition And Forestry 2020 05 07	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-07
Suspend School Meal Debt Act of 2020

Description

Suspend School Meal Debt Act of 2020 This bill prohibits each school food authority and local educational agency participating in the National School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program from collecting unpaid school meal fees (including late fees associated with unpaid meals) or using a debt collector to collect such fees during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency. The prohibition ends 30 days after the date on which the public health emergency is terminated. Additionally, the Department of Agriculture must reimburse each school food authority and local educational agency participating in either program for unpaid meal fees (including late fees associated with unpaid meals) owed to the authority or agency as of the date of the enactment of this bill.

Primary Sponsors

Tina Smith

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3697	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Agriculture Nutrition And Forestry 2020 05 12	In Senate

Title
SNAP COVID-19 Anti-Hunger Restaurant Relief for You Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Chris Murphy

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at May 14, 2020, 3:34 PM
The COVID-19 Anti-Hunger Restaurant Relief for You Act of 2020 (SNAP CARRY Act) would expand eligibility for the SNAP Restaurant Meals Programs (RMP) and waives program requirements to make it easier for states and restaurants to participate in the program during emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Introduction Date: 2020-05-12

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at May 14, 2020, 3:33 PM
Press Release: <https://www.murphy.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3728	Introduced In Senate 2020 05 13	In Senate

Title
Critical Infrastructure Employee Protection Act of 2020

Introduction Date: 2020-05-13

Description
Critical Infrastructure Employee Protection Act of 2020 This bill requires the Department of Transportation to support state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions in providing (1) priority COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) testing for essential critical infrastructure employees; and (2) priority access to personal protective equipment, sanitizers, face coverings, and health-related or protective supplies necessary to safely perform essential critical infrastructure work. (Essential critical infrastructure employees include, but are not limited to, medical and health care, telecommunications, information technology systems, defense, food and agriculture, transportation and logistics, energy, water and wastewater, law enforcement, and public works.)

Primary Sponsors
Roger Wicker

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3738	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2020 05 14	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-14
COVID-19 Testing Inventory Act

Description

COVID-19 Testing Inventory Act This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to share information on a public website about tests to diagnose COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) or detect the virus that causes the disease. The website must include, among other information, a list of testing sites and the number and type of diagnostic tests available for use in each state, territory, or tribe.

Primary Sponsors

Tina Smith

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3750	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Finance 2020 05 14	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-14
Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payments Improvement Act

Description

Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payments Improvement Act This bill establishes and otherwise modifies requirements for the Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payment Program during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The program provides Medicare payments in advance to eligible providers experiencing claims or cash flow disruptions, such as during national emergencies; the program was specifically expanded in response to COVID-19 to encompass more types of providers, subject to certain recoupment and repayment provisions. Under the current program, recoupment of advance payments (through claims offsets) begins up to four months after the payment is made. Additionally, certain hospitals have one year to repay the full amount; other types of providers have seven months. Repayments made after this period are subject to the prevailing interest rate set by the Department of the Treasury (generally around 10% in FY2020). The bill delays recoupment for one year and caps the recoupment at 25% of a claim. The bill also gives all providers up to two years for full repayment and caps the interest rate at 1%. Additionally, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) may waive repayment entirely upon a demonstration of extreme hardship, among other factors. The bill also requires the CMS to continue to make the program available to providers of Medicare medical services for the duration of the public health emergency. (The CMS suspended the program for such providers on April 26, 2020.)

Primary Sponsors

Jeanne Shaheen

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3755	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2020 05 18	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-18
Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act of 2020

Description

Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act of 2020 This bill allows essential workers and their family members to file claims and receive compensation for harm or death suffered as a result of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). A Special Master appointed by the Department of Justice must review claims submitted and determine if a claimant is eligible for compensation, the extent of the harm to the claimant, and the amount of compensation to be awarded.

Primary Sponsors

Tammy Duckworth

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3768	Introduced In Senate 2020 05 19	In Senate

Title Introduction Date: 2020-05-19
Nursing Home COVID-19 Protection and Prevention Act of 2020

Description

Nursing Home COVID-19 Protection and Prevention Act of 2020 This bill establishes several programs and requirements to address the outbreak of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) in skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, and psychiatric hospitals. Specifically, the bill provides specified funds for states to support cohorting (i.e., separating and grouping) individuals in such facilities based on COVID-19 status. States may use funds for specified items and activities, including testing kits, staffing, and facility development. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) must issue related guidance that includes, among other things, which facilities are permitted to cohort individuals and strategies for effective implementation; such guidance must account for certain factors, including a facility's compliance with Medicare and Medicaid requirements regarding infection control and emergency preparedness. The CMS must also (1) publish and update daily, on its website and on the Nursing Home Compare website, specified information relating to COVID-19 cases and deaths in these facilities; (2) ensure these facilities provide timely notice of new cases or symptoms to residents, families, and specified government agencies; and (3) provide monthly congressional briefings on the outbreak in these facilities and related agency actions.

Primary Sponsors

Bob Casey

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3790	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2020 05 20	In Senate

Title
Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act

Introduction Date: 2020-05-20

Description

Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to pay the out-of-pocket expenses of individuals receiving medically-necessary care or services during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) pandemic. Specifically, the bill covers the costs for services provided through public or private health insurance and to uninsured individuals, including prescription drugs and care related to COVID-19, beginning on the date of enactment of this bill until a COVID-19 vaccine is widely available to the public. Health insurance plans are prohibited from increasing the cost-sharing requirements of plans while this program is in effect and HHS must report to Congress on the program on a weekly basis.

Primary Sponsors

Bernie Sanders

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3884	Introduced In Senate 2020 06 03	In Senate

Title Essential Transportation Employee Safety Act of 2020 **Introduction Date:** 2020-06-03

Description

Essential Transportation Employee Safety Act of 2020 This bill requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to support the efforts of state and local governments to provide for priority COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) testing of transportation workers who are categorized as essential critical infrastructure workers. (Essential critical infrastructure employees include, but are not limited to, medical and health care, telecommunications, information technology systems, defense, food and agriculture, transportation and logistics, energy, water and wastewater, law enforcement, and public works.) Additionally, during the COVID-19 pandemic, DOT must require (1) the owners and operators of equipment or facilities used by passenger or freight transportation employers implement personal protective equipment and disinfection and sanitization procedures; and (2) an air carrier to submit to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) a proposal to permit pilots to wear masks or protective face coverings in the flight deck, including a safety risk assessment with respect to such proposal. The bill sets forth requirements for owners or operators who cannot acquire necessary personal protective equipment due to market unavailability. For the duration of the COVID-19 national emergency, the FAA must (1) provide certain employees, including any air traffic controller and airway transportation systems specialist, with personal protective and sanitizing equipment; (2) ensure that each air traffic control facility is cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized frequently; and (3) ensure its contractors provide their employees with personal protective equipment.

Primary Sponsors

Dick Blumenthal

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3921	Introduced In Senate 2020 06 09	In Senate

Title Emergency Medical Supplies Procurement Act

Primary Sponsors

Bernie Sanders

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 11, 2020, 3:48 PM
The Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act would eliminate all out-of-pocket health costs for every person in America during the COVID-19 crisis. The bill would empower the government to leverage the existing efficiency of Medicare's payment infrastructure to ensure COVID-19 relief funding goes directly to patient care, without changing families' insurance coverage or touching the Medicare trust fund.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-09

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 11, 2020, 3:47 PM
Press Release: <https://www.sanders.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/sanders-gillibrand-booker-warren-markey-merkley-harris-introduce-emergency-health-care-guarantee-act>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3923	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2020 06 09	In Senate

Title
Emergency Family Stabilization Act

Primary Sponsors
Lisa Murkowski

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 11, 2020, 3:12 PM
The Emergency Family Stabilization Act would create a new emergency funding stream overseen by the Administration for Children and Families within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide flexible funding for community-based organizations to meet the unique needs of children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness. Specifically, the bill aims to provide emergency funding to underserved populations and areas, including in rural and tribal communities, who continue to see long-term repercussions of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-09

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 11, 2020, 3:11 PM
<https://www.murkowski.senate.gov/press/release/senators-introduce-legislation-to-help-families-youth-and-children-faced-with-homelessness-amid-covid-19-pandemic>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3966	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Finance 2020 06 16	In Senate

Title
Work Safe Act

Description
Work Safe Act This bill allows employers a tax credit for providing testing for COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The bill also requires the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to disclose the COVID-19 weekly positive case rate for each state and the United States for the most recent calendar week.

Primary Sponsors
Ted Cruz

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 18, 2020, 2:47 PM
the Work Safe Act would provide tax credits to businesses that test employees for COVID-19 every week in states where the infection rates are above the national average.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-16

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 18, 2020, 2:46 PM
Press Release: https://www.cruz.senate.gov/?p=press_release&id=5180

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 3991	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2020 06 17	In Senate

Title

Coronavirus 2019 Special Enrollment Period Act

Description

Coronavirus 2019 Special Enrollment Period Act This bill establishes a special enrollment period beginning July 1, 2020, and ending October 1, 2020, for health plans offered through health insurance exchanges.

Primary Sponsors

Tammy Duckworth

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 18, 2020, 2:32 PM

Press Release: <https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/news/press-releases/-duckworth-durbin-introduce-bill-to-give-americans-the-freedom-to-purchase-health-insurance-during-covid-19-pandemic>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 18, 2020, 2:32 PM
The COVID-19 Special Enrollment Period Act provides uninsured Americans the freedom to purchase health insurance coverage through the federal health insurance marketplace exchange by establishing a one-time special enrollment period (SEP) beginning on July 1, 2020 and ending on October 1, 2020.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-17

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4055	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions Text Cr S 3208 3209 2020 06 24	In Senate

Title

Strengthening America's Health Care Readiness Act

Primary Sponsors

Dick Durbin

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 25, 2020, 3:08 PM

Press Release: <https://www.durbin.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/durbin-rubio-introduce-bipartisan-bill-to-expand-health-care-workforce-to-meet-nationwide-challenges-highlighted-by-covid-19>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 25, 2020, 3:08 PM
The Strengthening America's Health Care Readiness Act would address these challenges and entice promising students from diverse backgrounds—physicians, dentists, mental health professionals, nurses, and physician assistants—into primary health careers in underserved communities by providing scholarship and loan repayment funding for tens of thousands of clinicians in exchange for a service commitment in an urban or rural area with a shortage of providers. The legislation would also create a new Emergency Service partnership between the NHSC and NDMS to boost our health care surge capacity in response to public health emergencies.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-24

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4059	Introduced In Senate 2020 06 24	In Senate

Title
COVID-19 Behavioral Health Support Act

Primary Sponsors
Tina Smith

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 25, 2020, 3:18 PM
The Native Behavioral Health Access Improvement Act would create a behavioral health program to help Tribes develop solutions that include culturally-appropriate efforts aimed at prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Introduction Date: 2020-06-24

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jun 25, 2020, 3:19 PM
Press Release: <https://www.smith.senate.gov/us-senator-tina-smith-introduces-legislation-help-tribal-communities-address-opioid-epidemic-mental>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4184	Introduced In Senate 2020 07 02	In Senate

Title
Assisted Living Facility Coronavirus Reporting Act

Primary Sponsors
Elizabeth Warren

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 13, 2020, 2:53 PM
The Assisted Living Facility Coronavirus Reporting Act would put in place national data collection and reporting requirements to ensure that assisted living facilities adequately protect residents from COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-02

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 13, 2020, 2:54 PM
Press Release: <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-maloney-markey-release-findings-from-first-comprehensive-survey-of-covid-19-in-assisted-living-facilities-and-introduce-assisted-living-facility-coronavirus-reporting-act>

Title
SCHOOL Act

Description

Safely Creating Healthy Opening Options Locally Act or the SCHOOL Act This bill establishes a grant program and other resources to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) with reopening schools after closures related to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). Specifically, the Department of Education (ED) must partner with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to award grants to LEAs for certain activities to reopen schools. These activities include (1) purchasing personal protective equipment; (2) cleaning and disinfecting schools; (3) purchasing the supplies necessary to carry out their reopening plans; and (4) complying with the guidelines, recommendations, and other public health communications issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other entities to mitigate the hazards of COVID-19. Additionally, ED and HHS must (1) develop a process to connect health care professionals with schools to assist them with symptom checks and additional supports, and (2) develop recommendations to expand telehealth services to students and teachers in areas with a shortage of health care professionals. Further, HHS must issue guidance to clarify that private health insurance must cover COVID-19 testing, without imposing cost-sharing, through telehealth services in school-based settings. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services must issue a letter to advise states on providing coverage for telehealth services in school-based settings under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. Finally, ED must develop an online clearinghouse to collect and maintain evidence-based information, including best practices, related to reopening schools after closures due to COVID-19.

Primary Sponsors
David Perdue

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:02 PM
Press Release: <https://www.perdue.senate.gov/news/press-releases/senator-david-perdue-on-safely-reopening-schools>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 23, 2020, 3:02 PM
The School Act would help K-12 schools effectively prepare reopening plans, share best practices, streamline data transparency, and connect with health care professionals for additional support.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-22

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4322	Introduced In Senate 2020 07 27	In Senate

Title
Safely Back to School and Back to Work Act

Primary Sponsors
Lamar Alexander

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 30, 2020, 2:55 PM
The Safely Back to School and Back to Work Act would improve stockpiles of pandemic supplies and sustain onshore manufacturing of tests, treatments and vaccines. It would also allow student loan borrowers with no income to continue to defer their monthly payment, give parents more choices of schools for their children and to increase availability of child care for working parents.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-27

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Jul 30, 2020, 2:56 PM
Press Release: <https://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=CE5CC476-A169-487C-8E51-CEB06DC812E5>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4351	Introduced In Senate 2020 07 29	In Senate

Title
TRUST CDC Act

Primary Sponsors
Sheldon Whitehouse

Introduction Date: 2020-07-29

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4358	Introduced In Senate 2020 07 29	In Senate

Title
Stronger Medicaid Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic Act

Primary Sponsors
Michael Bennet

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 3:10 PM
The Stronger Medicaid Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic Act would allow Medicaid to cover COVID-19 treatment costs for the uninsured and ensure that cost is not a barrier to care for those who are fighting this devastating virus. The bill gives states an incentive to take up this option by providing federal funding to reimburse states for the cost of this COVID-19 treatment for the uninsured.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-29

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 3:10 PM
Press Release: <https://www.bennet.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?id=E768C853-4B1B-4E13-BE19-11CBE863D536>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4375	Introduced In Senate 2020 07 30	In Senate

Title
Telehealth Modernization Act

Description
Telehealth Modernization Act This bill modifies requirements relating to coverage of telehealth services under Medicare. Specifically, the bill extends certain flexibilities that were initially authorized during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). Among other things, the bill allows (1) rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers to serve as the distant site (i.e., the location of the health care practitioner); (2) the home of a beneficiary to serve as the originating site (i.e., the location of the beneficiary) for all services (rather than for only certain services); and (3) all types of practitioners to furnish telehealth services, as determined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Primary Sponsors
Lamar Alexander

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 3:05 PM
Press Release: <https://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=3F5CE2F6-6237-4345-B7E5-4E54F27BA56B>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 3:05 PM
The Telehealth Modernization Act would ensure that patients can access telehealth anywhere by permanently removing Medicare's so-called "geographic and originating site" restrictions, which required both that the patient live in a rural area and use telehealth at a doctor's office or clinic. It would also protect access to telehealth for patients in rural areas.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-30

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4391	Introduced In Senate 2020 07 30	In Senate

Title
Masks Work Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors
Brian Schatz

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 2:51 PM
Press Release: <https://www.schatz.senate.gov/press-releases/schatz-van-hollen-feinstein-introduce-new-bill-to-improve-public-awareness-of-masks-in-reducing-the-spread-of-covid-19-provide-free-cloth-masks>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 3:01 PM
The Masks Work Act of 2020 would direct the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to establish a program to provide a free cloth face covering to any individual who requests one. The legislation would also direct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to create a public service announcement campaign to inform Americans about the efficacy of cloth face coverings and why they are recommended by public health experts to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-07-30

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4458	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2020 08 05	In Senate

Title

Suppress COVID-19 Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors

Bill Cassidy

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 2:35 PM
The Suppress COVID-19 Act would appropriate \$25 billion for states to purchase tests and testing supplies, and it authorizes states to enter into interstate compacts and regional agreements that allow them to overcome challenges with the testing supply chain. There is an additional \$25 billion in funding provided to support testing administration, data modernization and other efforts that allow health officials to isolate outbreaks to more quickly reduce the spread of the virus. States would be required to meet certain criteria to receive funding.

Introduction Date: 2020-08-05

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 6, 2020, 2:35 PM

Press Release: <https://www.cassidy.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cassidy-smith-colleagues-introduce-bill-to-eliminate-covid-testing-shortages-allow-for-state-compacts>

Title

Coronavirus Language Access Act

Description

Coronavirus Language Access Act This bill requires the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal agencies to take actions to expand access to information about COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) for those with limited English proficiency. It also provides emergency funding to the Administration on Community Living for FY2020 to increase access to such information for those who have limited English proficiency and are older individuals, individuals with disabilities, or individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. Among other requirements, the CDC must award grants to, or enter cooperative agreements with, community-based organizations or governmental health departments to offer interpretive services for individuals receiving COVID-19 tests and otherwise provide information about COVID-19 and other public health activities in certain languages other than English. The CDC must also translate, within seven days, certain COVID-19 materials into specified languages other than English and must operate a hotline staffed by trained interpreters to provide information about COVID-19 to the public. In addition, any federal agency that receives funding pursuant to a COVID-19 response law must translate, within seven days, materials that describe programs and opportunities related to COVID-19 into specified languages other than English and must provide oral language assistance services to those with limited English proficiency.

Primary Sponsors

Mazie Hirono

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 20, 2020, 2:38 PM

Press Release: <https://www.hirono.senate.gov/news/press-releases/hirono-casey-harris-colleagues-introduce-coronavirus-language-access-act>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Aug 20, 2020, 2:38 PM

The Coronavirus Language Access Act would expand access to coronavirus-related resources by increasing language access services and supporting culturally appropriate COVID-19 response programs to help older Americans, those who have limited English proficiency (LEP), and people with disabilities.

Introduction Date: 2020-08-12

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4666	Introduced In Senate 2020 09 23	In Senate

Title

National Coronavirus Commission Act of 2020

Description

National Coronavirus Commission Act of 2020 This bill establishes, in the legislative branch, the Commission on the Coronavirus Pandemic in the United States and sets forth its powers, duties, funding, and membership. Among other activities, the commission shall investigate the facts and circumstances of the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) pandemic and make recommendations on preventing a similar outbreak from occurring in the future. The commission terminates 120 days after the submission of its final report.

Primary Sponsors

Bob Menendez

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 24, 2020, 3:43 PM

Press Release: <https://malinowski.house.gov/media/press-releases/representative-malinowski-introduces-bipartisan-bill-create-independent-911>

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Sep 24, 2020, 3:42 PM
The National Coronavirus Commission Act of 2020 would create an independent, non-partisan commission, closely modeled after the 9/11 Commission that investigated the September 11, 2001 terror attacks, to assess the nation's preparedness and response to COVID-19 and provide recommendations to improve our country's readiness for future epidemics and pandemics.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-23

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4732	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions Sponsor Introductory Remarks On Measure Cr S 5874 5875 2020 09 24	In Senate

Title

COVID-19 Disinformation Research and Reporting Act of 2020

Primary Sponsors

Mazie Hirono

Organizational Notes

Last edited by David Hoover at Sep 28, 2020, 2:48 PM

Press Release: <https://wexton.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=401>

Bill Summary: Last edited by David Hoover at Sep 28, 2020, 2:45 PM
The COVID-19 Disinformation Research and Reporting Act would examine the role of disinformation and misinformation on the public response to COVID-19 and the role that social media has in promoting the spread of false information. The bill authorizes \$1 million to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to partner with the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (National Academies) to conduct a study.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-24

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4775	Read The Second Time Placed On Senate Legislative Calendar Under General Orders Calendar No 564 2020 10 01	In Senate

Title
Delivering Immediate Relief to America's Families, Schools and Small Businesses Act

Primary Sponsors
Mitch McConnell

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 5, 2020, 3:14 PM
The Delivering Immediate Relief to America's Families, Schools and Small Business Act would provide continued emergency assistance, educational support, and health care response for individuals, families, and businesses affected by the 2020 coronavirus pandemic.

Introduction Date: 2020-09-30

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4782	Introduced In Senate 2020 10 01	In Senate

Title
Keeping Schools Safe Act

Primary Sponsors
Martin Heinrich

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 5, 2020, 3:18 PM
The Keeping Schools Safe Act would authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants that allow elementary and secondary schools to improve indoor air quality using proven technologies and in an effort to reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-01

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 5, 2020, 3:18 PM
Press Release: <https://www.heinrich.senate.gov/press-releases/heinrich-introduces-bill-to-improve-school-air-quality>

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
US	S 4846	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Finance 2020 10 22	In Senate

Title
Nursing Home Pandemic Protection Act

Primary Sponsors
Cory Booker

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 29, 2020, 2:22 PM
The Nursing Home Pandemic Protection Act would require that nursing homes have a crisis plan in place to manage an outbreak, that facilities keep a stockpile of PPE on hand, that nursing homes report communicable diseases, infections, and potential outbreaks, and work to ensure that residents and their families be kept informed of infections inside the facilities.

Introduction Date: 2020-10-22

Organizational Notes

Last edited by TFG Reports at Oct 29, 2020, 2:22 PM
Press Release: <https://gottheimer.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2248>

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