



COVID-19 Public Health & Safety Legislative Update

Last Updated: January 14, 2021

The following legislative tracker provides an update on COVID-19 public health and safety-related bills introduced in the 117th 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 (4)

Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
HR 98	Introduced In House 2021 01 04	In House	6.4% 0.0%
Title To provide for the establishment of a COVID-19 Compensation Fund to compensate claimants for harms resulting from suffering from COVID-19, and for other purposes.		Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jan 7, 2021, 4:20 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.	
Primary Sponsors Adriano Espaillat		Introduction Date: 2021-01-04	
Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
HR 212	Introduced In House 2021 01 05	In House	7.7% 0.0%
Title To require Federal agencies to submit plans for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.		Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jan 7, 2021, 4:26 PM The COVID Preparedness, Response, and Effective Planning for Advanced Requirements by the Executive Branch (PREPARE) Act, H.R. 212, would require federal agencies to submit regular reports to Congress on the ongoing steps they are taking to address the COVID-19 pandemic as we face new challenges, address new needs, and deploy COVID-19 vaccines across the country. These reports would detail all COVID-19 response and vaccine deployment plans related to the agency's mission, including measurable goals, anticipated challenges, how they will consult with Congress, and any resources they need to carry out their work.	
Primary Sponsors Brad Schneider		Introduction Date: 2021-01-05	
Organizational Notes			
Last edited by TFG Reports at Jan 7, 2021, 4:24 PM Press Release: https://schneider.house.gov/media/press-releases/schneider-s-top-priority-defeating-covid-19-first-bill-new-congress			

Bill Number

HR 318

Last Action

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 2021 01 13

Status

In House

FN Outlook

5.4%

0.0%

Title

To amend title XVIII to provide coverage and payment for certain tests and assistive telehealth consultations during the COVID-19 emergency period, and for other purposes.

Primary Sponsors

David Schweikert

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jan 14, 2021, 4:38 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: 2021-01-13

Bill Number

HR 321

Last Action

Introduced In House 2021 01 13

Status

In House

FN Outlook

5.4%

0.0%

Title

To authorize the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to approve State, local, and Indian tribal government plans to partner with small and mid-size restaurants and nonprofit organizations to provide nutritious meals to individuals in need, to waive certain matching fund requirements, and for other purposes.

Primary Sponsors

Mike Thompson

Bill Summary: Last edited by TFG Reports at Jan 14, 2021, 4:33 PM

The FEMA Empowering Essential Deliveries (FEED) Act would allow the Federal government to pay 100 percent of the cost to states and localities so that they can partner with restaurants and nonprofits to prepare nutritious meals for vulnerable populations, such as seniors and underprivileged children. These partnerships will support businesses and small farmers as the Coronavirus pandemic continues.

Introduction Date: 2021-01-13

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