



Health Policy Briefing

February 8, 2021

Democrats Move Ahead with Budget Reconciliation for COVID Relief

Congressional Democrats and the White House have decided to move forward in advancing the next coronavirus stimulus bill through reconciliation. A fiscal 2021 budget resolution was filed by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) last week, the first step in the budget reconciliation process that could allow President Joe Biden's nearly \$2 trillion COVID relief package to pass both chambers with simple majorities. The resolution contains instructions to congressional committees to draft the portions of the stimulus bill within their jurisdictions and submit them to their respective Budget Committee by February 16. The final bill is required to total less than \$1.9 trillion and adhere to the Senate's Byrd Rule. The 2021 budget blueprint ([S. Con. Res. 5](#)) was passed by the Senate on Friday after an all-night session, with Vice President Kamala Harris casting her first tie-breaking vote. Senators ultimately adopted 19 non-binding amendments during the vote-a-rama, including a measure supporting legislation in favor of a coronavirus vaccine awareness campaign. The House of Representatives had already agreed to its own budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 11) earlier in the week and later approved the Senate's language. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) expects the House will vote on the stimulus package the week of February 22, though he noted that there is a chance the chamber could return from recess early to consider the legislation. To achieve passage, all 50 Senate Democrats would have to approve the plan put forth under the budget reconciliation process, and Democrats in the House could only afford four objections.

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Several groups of moderate lawmakers continue to push leadership to immediately pass standalone funding to support vaccine development and distribution. The Blue Dog Coalition of House Democrats sent a [letter](#) to Speaker Pelosi urging her to take up a bill to support the nation's vaccination effort, warning that the reconciliation process could take months to complete. "Our preferred legislative approach," the lawmakers state, "is to swiftly vote on the portion of the administration's proposal focused on vaccine development and distribution," while other elements of the relief plan be passed on a separate track. The bipartisan House Problem Solvers Caucus has also called for an immediate vote on \$160 billion in funding for vaccines, testing, tracing, and health providers as negotiations on wider pandemic-related issues continue. The Biden administration, however, has rejected any "piecemeal" approach to COVID relief.

No Republicans are on the record in support of the comprehensive package sought by President Biden. A group of 10 Republican senators discussed their own \$618 billion stimulus [plan](#) with Biden officials on Monday, and said they still have significant questions and concerns about the size and scope of the President's plan. President Biden has characterized the GOP bill as too slim and has maintained that his \$1.9 trillion proposal is a floor and not a ceiling.

A [breakdown](#) of the President's request for \$160 billion in direct pandemic relief within the broader American Rescue Plan was released last week. More than half that funding - \$83 billion - would be used to increase development of and access to vaccines, testing and therapeutics, and critical supplies. Of this \$83 billion, \$10 billion would be invested in domestic manufacturing, including through the use of the Defense Production Act (DPA) and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA). Four billion would be used to build two manufacturing facilities with the ability to produce 100 million COVID vaccine doses per month; \$1 billion would be put toward the creation of a stockpile of essential materials and supplies; \$3 billion for the expansion of additional supply manufacturing; and \$2 billion for the onshoring of test kits and related supplies. The President proposes that \$50 billion be spent on U.S. testing efforts, with \$3.5 billion being invested in laboratory capacity and the construction of high-throughput labs. Another \$20 billion would be spent on vaccine development and distribution efforts, funding vaccination clinics and mobile units for underserved communities, boosting vaccine manufacturing, and launching a vaccine awareness campaign. Three billion would be put toward research and development of COVID therapeutics, including through funding for BARDA. The plan also includes \$340 million to strengthen the nation's work on genomic sequencing of emerging COVID variants.

Biden to Issue E.O. on Critical Supply Chains

President Joe Biden plans to order a government-wide review of critical supply chains, with the goal of reducing the nation's reliance on other countries for medical supplies and other essential materials. According to White House officials, the administration plans to work with U.S. allies to ensure a collective approach. The executive order (E.O.) is expected to direct analyses of critical sectors of the economy.

Brooks-LaSure Frontrunner for CMS Post

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure appears to be the top name on President Joe Biden's short list to head the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Brooks-LaSure is a former Obama administration health official who helped implement the Affordable Care Act (ACA) while serving as deputy director for policy at the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO). She chaired President Joe Biden's health transition team and currently works as a managing director of the consulting firm Manatt Health. Earlier in her career, she was a staffer for the House Ways and Means Committee where she helped to draft the ACA while working with nominee for U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra, who served on the panel during his time in Congress. North Carolina Health Secretary Mandy Cohen is the other leading candidate for CMS Administrator. Cohen also served at the agency during the Obama administration, as CMS chief operating officer and chief of staff. Biden's other health care nominees, including Becerra and Surgeon General nominee Vivek Murthy, are still awaiting their confirmation hearings. The Senate confirmed Alejandro Mayorkas to be Secretary of Homeland Security and Pete Buttigieg as Secretary of Transportation last week.

PREP Act Expanded to Increase Vaccine Administration

HHS has broadened the use of the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act to increase the number of health care providers authorized to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. The amendment authorizes any health care provider licensed or certified in a state to prescribe, dispense, or administer COVID-19 vaccines in any other state or U.S. territory, and authorizes any physician, registered nurse, or practical nurse whose license or certification expired within the past five years to prescribe, dispense or administer COVID-19 vaccines in any state or U.S. territory so long as the license or certification was active and in good standing prior to the date it went inactive. More information on the PREP Act amendment can be found [here](#).

Trump Impeachment Trial to Begin This Week

Opening arguments in former President Donald Trump's Senate impeachment trial will begin on February 9. The proceedings are not expected to take as long as Trump's first impeachment trial, which lasted three weeks, as the case against the former president relies in large part on public events and the personal experiences of lawmakers themselves. Democrats have not yet said what witnesses, if any, they want to offer testimony in the upcoming trial. The single article of impeachment passed by the House of Representatives charges Trump with inciting the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on January 6; it also notes the former president's effort to overturn the certified presidential election results. Some Republicans have questioned the constitutionality of a Senate impeachment trial that takes place after a president has left office; the Senate recently overruled an objection by Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) seeking to declare the trial unconstitutional by a vote of 55-45. Non-presidential impeachments of the past, however, suggest that the Senate has the authority to try Trump even though his term has ended. At least 17 Republicans would have to join Democrats in order to reach a conviction, which seems unlikely given the number of GOP members who voted to declare the trial unconstitutional. Should he be convicted, a follow-up vote supported by a simple majority of senators could disqualify Trump from ever serving in federal office again. Under Senate rules, the trial will begin every day at noon and run six days a week. President Trump will be defended by David Schoen, who previously represented Trump adviser Roger Stone, and Bruce L. Castor Jr., former acting attorney general of Pennsylvania.

Senate Adopts Power-Sharing Agreement

The Senate has adopted a power-sharing agreement ([S. Res. 27](#)) for the 117th Congress, setting procedure for the chamber's 50-50 split by unanimous consent. The Senate's filibuster and cloture rules will remain unchanged. The resolution provides for the majority and minority leaders to "seek to attain an equal balance of the interests of the two parties when scheduling and debating legislative and executive business generally." It provides that committee budgets and office space will be divided equally. If a committee vote is tied, leadership could try to bring the nomination or legislation to the floor through a motion to discharge, and the measure would be placed on the calendar if the motion is successful. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) committed to "dramatically" increasing the number of member-initiated amendments offered, and expressed opposition to limiting amendments by "filling the tree." In response, Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) acknowledged that this commitment should help alleviate the practice of debates on motions to proceed.

Senate Committee Assignments Announced

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) [announced](#) Senate Democratic committee memberships for the 117th Congress last week. The memberships have been agreed upon by the Democratic conference. Of note regarding the committees with health jurisdiction, Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) is rotating off the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee and on to the Senate Finance Committee. Sens. Ben Ray Lujan (D-N.M.) and John Hickenlooper (D-Colo.) will be joining HELP. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) also [announced](#) the GOP committee assignments for the 117th Congress last week. Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) is the ranking republican of the Finance Committee and Sen. Richard Burr (R-N.C.) is the ranking republican of the HELP Committee. Newly elected Senators Roger Marshall, MD (R-Kan.) and Tommy Tuberville, (R-Ala.) will serve on the HELP Committee.

Republicans Announces Ways and Means Subcommittee Membership

Last week, House Ways and Means Committee Ranking Member Kevin Brady (R-Texas) [announced](#) subcommittee leaders and assignments for the 117th Congress. Rep. Devin Nunes (R-Calif.) will be the top Republican on the Health Subcommittee, which will also be comprised of Reps. Vern Buchanan (R-Fla.), Adrian Smith (R-Neb.), Tom Reed (R-N.Y.), Mike Kelly (R-Pa.), Jason Smith (R-Mo.), David Schweikert (R-Ariz.), and Brad Wenstrup (R-Ohio).

Wyden, Grassley Subpoena United Network for Organ Sharing

Sens. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) have [subpoenaed](#) the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) for information related to its oversight of U.S. organ-transplant centers. The lawmakers express serious concerns about the group's oversight functionality, arguing that organ procurement organizations (OPOs) "have been severely underperforming for decades." They also cite reports of the improper use of Medicare funds. The subpoena was prompted because UNOS had not responded to previous inquiries from Wyden and Grassley.

E&C Looks to Combat Vaccine Misinformation

Leadership of the House Energy and Commerce Committee are [asking](#) big tech companies about how they are acting to prevent or limit false and misleading information on their platforms about COVID-19 vaccines. In letters to Facebook, Twitter, and Google the lawmakers ask for details on the five most targeted advertisements that appear next to vaccine misinformation or disinformation and whether the companies are coordinating with each other to combat misinformation or disinformation. The panel requested responses by February 16.

Lawmakers Request More Guidance on High Quality Masks

Reps. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.), Ro Khanna (D-Calif.), and Sens. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) have sent a [letter](#) to President Joe Biden calling on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to provide updated guidance on the type of masks most effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19. "While we grappled with shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) in hospitals and made a concerted effort to conserve supplies early in the pandemic, medical grade masks including surgical masks, KN95 masks, and other options are now more widely available," the letter states. "Your Administration can and should take additional steps to increase their supply and availability to Americans."

Barragan, Bush Highlight Vaccine Disparities

Reps. Nanette Diaz Barragan (D-Calif.) and Cori Bush (D-Mo.) have sent a [letter](#) to President Joe Biden calling on the White House to ensure that underserved communities are not overlooked in the administration's vaccine distribution plans. The lawmakers cite data indicating that four percent of the white population has received a COVID-19 vaccine, compared to only 1.9 percent of the Black population and 1.8 percent of the Latino population. They suggest that the administration look for "creative approaches" to solve this problem, such as the use of mobile vaccination units.

House Dems Request Premium Assistance in Stimulus Bill

More than 20 House Democrats signed on to a [letter](#) asking congressional leadership to include a measure to increase health insurance premium affordability in the pandemic stimulus package. The letter suggests that the bill ensure that no one pays more than 8.5 percent of their income for health care coverage. This policy, which was passed by the House of Representatives during the 116th Congress, was reintroduced this year as the ***Health Care Affordability Act of 2021*** (H.R. 369).

Sen. Shelby Considering Retirement

According to recent reports from sources close to Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), the senator is considering the decision to not seek a seventh term in 2022. No official announcements have been made. Shelby is the upper chamber's fourth-most senior member; he is currently serving in his sixth term. He was first elected in 1986 as a Democrat but switched to the Republican Party in 1994. He is the top Republican of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Freshman Rep Stripped of Committee Posts

The House of Representatives voted to strip freshman Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.) of her committee posts. Eleven Republicans joined Democrats in passing the motion by a vote of 230-199. Greene has made controversial remarks including calls for violence against Democratic politicians and embracing QAnon conspiracy theories. As a result of the vote, she was removed from the Budget and Education and Labor committees.

Hart Health Strategies COVID-19 Resources

Hart Health Strategies Inc. continues to update the following resources related to the coronavirus pandemic. Please remember to clear your cache to ensure you download the most recent documents.

- [Disaster Primer](#)
- [Federal Relief Overview](#)
- [Health Care Workers on the Front Lines](#)
- [Hospice and Palliative Care](#)
- [Nursing Resources](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment](#)
- [Physician Provisions](#)
- [Re-Opening America](#)
- [Small Business Resources](#)
- [Small Business - Paycheck Protection Program](#)
- [Small Business – PPP FAQ](#)
- [State Resources](#)
- [Tax Provisions](#)
- [Telehealth Overview](#)
- [Testing](#)
- [Vaccines](#)

Upcoming Congressional Committee Activity

Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee hearing to examine the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget; 9:30 a.m., 342 Dirksen Bldg.; February 9

Senate Budget Committee hearing to examine the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget; 10:00 a.m., 608 Dirksen Bldg.; February 10

House Committee on Homeland Security hearing “Assessing Cyber Threats and Building Resilience;” 2:00 p.m., Virtual; February 10

Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee executive session to consider the nominations of Miguel Cardona to serve as Secretary of Education and Marty Walsh to serve as Secretary of Labor; 10:00 a.m., 430 Dirksen Bldg.; February 11

Recently Introduced Health Legislation

H.Res.86 — Expressing support for frontline workers of the COVID-19 pandemic; Sponsor: Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.Res.88 — Recognizing women’s cardiovascular health as a critical health care priority that affects every State and contributes to increased health care costs, and promoting the necessity of increased awareness of and education on the symptoms for heart disease among women, gender-specific cardiovascular disease research, and policy action to alleviate the risks of heart disease among women; Sponsor: Rep. Herrera Beutler, Jaime [R-WA-3]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.688 — To permit a licensed health care provider to provide health care services to individuals in one or more States in which the provider is not licensed; Sponsor: Rep. Budd, Ted [R-NC-13]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.689 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a Patient and State Stability Fund; Sponsor: Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means

H.R.706 — To authorize grants to address substance use during COVID-19; Sponsor: Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.708 — To provide temporary licensing reciprocity for telehealth and interstate health care treatment; Sponsor: Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.719 — To allow States to approve the use of diagnostic tests during a public health emergency; Sponsor: Rep. McHenry, Patrick T. [R-NC-10]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.721 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs; Sponsor: Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.722 — To amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require coverage under the Medicaid program and Children’s Health Insurance Program for vaccines and treatment for COVID-19 without the imposition of cost sharing requirements, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.724 — To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for reciprocal marketing approval of certain drugs, biological products, and devices that are authorized to be lawfully marketed abroad, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Roy, Chip [R-TX-21]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.725 — To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand and improve health savings accounts, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Roy, Chip [R-TX-21]; Committees: House - Ways and Means

H.R.726 — To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to conduct diagnostic testing for COVID-19, and related activities such as contact tracing, through mobile health units and, as necessary, at individuals' residences, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.727 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure communications accessibility for residents of skilled nursing facilities during the COVID-19 emergency period; Sponsor: Rep. Sanchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]; Committees: House - Ways and Means

H.R.728 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Emergency Office of Manufacturing for Public Health, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.736 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to covered health departments to increase the rate of recommended immunizations, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.738 — To require employers to pay essential pay to health care employees during public health emergencies, and to provide a tax credit for the cost of such pay; Sponsor: Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Education and Labor

S.149 — A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide Secretarial authority to temporarily waive or modify application of certain Medicare requirements with respect to ambulance services furnished during certain emergency periods; Sponsor: Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.150 — A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the inclusion of certain audio-only diagnoses in the determination of risk adjustment for Medicare Advantage plans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.151 — A bill to provide for an emergency increase in Federal funding to State Medicaid programs for expenditures on home and community-based services; Sponsor: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.152 — A bill to allow States to approve the use of diagnostic tests during a public health emergency; Sponsor: Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.153 — A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand and improve health savings accounts, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.154 — A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for reciprocal marketing approval of certain drugs, biological products, and devices that are authorized to be lawfully marketed abroad, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.155 — A bill to permit a licensed health care provider to provide health care services to individuals in one or more States in which the provider is not licensed; Sponsor: Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.157 — A bill to provide funding for the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use to award grants for the purpose of supporting virtual peer behavioral health support services, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.162 — A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for public health research and investment into understanding and eliminating structural racism and police violence; Sponsor: Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.164 — A bill to educate health care providers and the public on biosimilar biological products, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.165 — A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to States, political subdivisions of States, Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, community-based entities, and primary care and behavioral health organizations to address behavioral health needs caused by the public health emergency declared with respect to COVID-19; Sponsor: Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.166 — A bill to authorize grants to address substance use during COVID-19; Sponsor: Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.167 — A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to covered health departments to increase the rate of recommended immunizations, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.168 — A bill to provide temporary licensing reciprocity for telehealth and interstate health care treatment; Sponsor: Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.176 — A bill to require a longitudinal study on the impact of COVID-19; Sponsor: Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.179 — A bill to authorize the appropriation of an additional \$10,000,000,000 to secure critical materials and supplies to combat the COVID-19 pandemic; Sponsor: Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

H.Res.93 — Calling for the establishment of a new unit of the National Institutes of Health, to be known as The National Institute of Viral Diseases, to increase research in the field of viral disease causes, prevention, and treatment; Sponsor: Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.746 — To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to secure medical opinions for veterans with service-connected disabilities who die from COVID-19 to determine whether their service-connected disabilities were the principal or contributory causes of death, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Davidson, Warren [R-OH-8]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.747 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for acquiring equipment and supplies capable of performing same-day clinical laboratory testing in a point-of-care setting, and to assist laboratories in meeting the cost of acquiring high-throughput equipment, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.769 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to improve obstetric care in rural areas; Sponsor: Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.771 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide funding for State strike teams for resident and employee safety in skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities; Sponsor: Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.773 — To amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to institute a 1-year waiting period before medical debt will be reported on a consumer's credit report and to remove paid-off and settled medical debts from credit reports that have been fully paid or settled, to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide a timetable for verification of medical debt and to increase the efficiency of credit markets with more perfect information, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]; Committees: House - Financial Services

H.R.778 — To authorize the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to award grants to eligible State, Tribal, and territorial public health agencies to develop and administer a program for digital contact tracing for COVID-19, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.780 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the continued implementation of the Climate and Health program by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

S.187 — A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Emergency Office of Manufacturing for Public Health, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.188 — A bill to create a Coronavirus Containment Corps; Sponsor: Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.198 — A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps; Sponsor: Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]; Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

S.199 — A bill to authorize the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to award grants to eligible State, Tribal, and territorial public health agencies to develop and administer a program for digital contact tracing for COVID-19, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.200 — A bill to provide State and local workforce and career and technical education systems the support to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency; Sponsor: Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.201 — A bill to establish a program ensuring access to accredited continuing medical education for primary care physicians and other health care providers at Federally-qualified health centers and rural health clinics, to provide training and clinical support for primary care providers to practice at their full scope and improve access to care for patients in underserved areas; Sponsor: Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.202 — A bill to ensure that veterans receive timely and effective emergency treatment during the COVID-19 emergency, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]; Committees: Senate - Veterans' Affairs

S.206 — A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require hospitals and certain other participating providers under Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program to disclose the provider’s policy on parental consent for the provision, withdrawal, or denial of life-sustaining treatment for minors, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]; Committees: Senate – Finance

S.207 — A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require hospitals and certain other participating providers under Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program to disclose the provider’s policy on parental access to the medical records of minors, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]; Committees: Senate – Finance

S.214 — A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to institute a 1-year waiting period before medical debt will be reported on a consumer’s credit report and to remove paid-off and settled medical debts from credit reports that have been fully paid or settled, to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide a timetable for verification of medical debt and to increase the efficiency of credit markets with more perfect information, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]; Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

S.217 — A bill to permit the use of certain United States Postal Service formatting tools by health care organizations to improve the provision of patient matching services; Sponsor: Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

H.Res.96 — Expressing support for the designation of February 4, 2021, as “National Cancer Prevention Day”; Sponsor: Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.787 — To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve mental health services for students, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Allen, Rick W. [R-GA-12]; Committees: House - Education and Labor

H.R.791 — To improve activities for the gathering of data on, and the tracking of, new variants of COVID-19; Sponsor: Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.792 — To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to facilitate the installation, on bridges, of evidence-based suicide deterrents, including suicide prevention nets and barriers, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]; Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

H.R.796 — To require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage without imposing any cost sharing requirements for certain items and services furnished during any portion of the COVID-19 emergency period, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; Education and Labor

H.R.801 — To establish a grant program to support schools of medicine and schools of osteopathic medicine in underserved areas; Sponsor: Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.809 — To expand the payment of principal, interest, and fees for certain disaster loans under the CARES Act, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]; Committees: House - Small Business

H.R.825 — To authorize the appropriation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention; Sponsor: Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.828 — To amend title XVIII and title XIX of the Social Security Act to codify certain infection control and emergency preparedness regulations, to prohibit a reduction in the frequency of surveys of skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities, to prohibit the waiver of certain reporting requirements, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce

H.R.831 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to encourage the rapid development of certain public health data standards, authorize epidemiological surveillance grants, and authorize a data linkage demonstration project, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.832 — To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the personal importation of safe and affordable drugs from approved pharmacies in Canada; Sponsor: Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.834 — To establish the National Commission on the COVID-19 Pandemic, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Financial Services; Transportation and Infrastructure

H.R.841 — To make hemp, cannabidiol derived from hemp, and any other ingredient derived from hemp lawful for use under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act as a dietary ingredient in a dietary supplement, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Schrader, Kurt [D-OR-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.844 — To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to increase enforcement under Medicare and Medicaid for skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities during the COVID-19 emergency period and other infectious disease outbreak periods, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Sherrill, Miki [D-NJ-11]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means

H.R.845 — To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to waive the requirement of certain veterans to make copayments for hospital care and medical services in the case of an error by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Smucker, Lloyd [R-PA-11]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.851 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to support schools of nursing in program enhancement and infrastructure modernization, increasing the number of nursing faculty and students, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.852 — To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a grant program to increase cooperation on post-traumatic stress disorder research between the United States and Israel; Sponsor: Rep. Waltz, Michael [R-FL-6]; Committees: House - Armed Services

H.R.853 — To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to limit the orphan drug exclusion under the drug discount program under section 340B of such title; Sponsor: Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce