

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 316

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2021

Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts) introduced the following bill; which was 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

A BILL

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.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. MEDICAL SUPPLIES RESPONSE COORDINATOR.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall appoint a
5 Medical Supplies Response Coordinator to coordinate the

1 efforts of the Federal Government regarding the supply
2 and distribution of critical medical supplies and equipment
3 related to detecting, diagnosing, preventing, and treating
4 COVID–19, including personal protective equipment, med-
5 ical devices, drugs, and vaccines.

6 (b) QUALIFICATIONS.—To qualify to be appointed as
7 the Medical Supplies Response Coordinator, an individual
8 shall be a senior government official with—

9 (1) health care training, including training re-
10 lated to infectious diseases or hazardous exposures;
11 and

12 (2) a familiarity with medical supply chain lo-
13 gistics.

14 (c) ACTIVITIES.—The Medical Supplies Response Co-
15 ordinator shall—

16 (1) consult with State, local, territorial, and
17 Tribal officials to ensure that health care facilities
18 and health care workers have sufficient personal pro-
19 tective equipment and other medical supplies;

20 (2) evaluate ongoing needs of States, localities,
21 territories, Tribes, health care facilities, and health
22 care workers to determine the need for critical med-
23 ical supplies and equipment;

24 (3) serve as a point of contact for industry for
25 procurement and distribution of critical medical sup-

1 plies and equipment, including personal protective
2 equipment, medical devices, testing supplies, drugs,
3 and vaccines;

4 (4) procure and distribute critical medical sup-
5 plies and equipment, including personal protective
6 equipment, medical devices, testing supplies, drugs,
7 and vaccines;

8 (5)(A) establish and maintain an up-to-date na-
9 tional database of hospital capacity, including beds,
10 ventilators, and supplies, including personal protec-
11 tive equipment, medical devices, drugs, and vaccines;
12 and

13 (B) provide weekly reports to the Congress on
14 gaps in such capacity and progress made toward
15 closing the gaps;

16 (6) require, as necessary, industry reporting on
17 production and distribution of personal protective
18 equipment, medical devices, testing supplies, drugs,
19 and vaccines and assess financial penalties as may
20 be specified by the Medical Supplies Response Coor-
21 dinator for failure to comply with such requirements
22 for reporting on production and distribution;

23 (7) consult with the Secretary and the Adminis-
24 trator of the Federal Emergency Management Agen-
25 cy, as applicable, to ensure sufficient production lev-

1 els under the Defense Production Act (50 U.S.C.
2 4501 et seq.); and

3 (8) monitor the prices of critical medical sup-
4 plies and equipment, including personal protective
5 equipment and medical devices, drugs, and vaccines
6 related to detecting, diagnosing, preventing, and
7 treating COVID–19 and report any suspected price
8 gouging of such materials to the Federal Trade
9 Commission and appropriate law enforcement offi-
10 cials.

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