

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 290

To amend the National Security Act of 1947 to require the President to designate an employee of the National Security Council to be responsible for pandemic prevention and response, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 8, 2021

Mr. MARKEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend the National Security Act of 1947 to require the President to designate an employee of the National Security Council to be responsible for pandemic prevention and response, and for other purposes.

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. NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL COORDINATOR**
4 **FOR PANDEMIC PREVENTION AND RE-**
5 **SPONSE.**

6 Section 101 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50
7 U.S.C. 3021) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-
2 section (i); and

3 (2) by inserting after subsection (g) the fol-
4 lowing new subsection (h):

5 “(h) COORDINATOR FOR PANDEMIC PREVENTION
6 AND RESPONSE.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall des-
8 ignate an employee of the National Security Council
9 to be the permanent coordinator for pandemic pre-
10 vention and response for the Federal Government
11 (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Coordinator’).

12 “(2) PURPOSE.—The Coordinator shall direct
13 all efforts of the Federal Government relating to
14 United States policy regarding pandemic prevention
15 and response, including by carrying out the duties
16 under paragraph (3).

17 “(3) DUTIES.—The Coordinator shall—

18 “(A) serve as the principal advisor to the
19 President regarding pandemic prevention and
20 response;

21 “(B) notwithstanding any other provision
22 of law, coordinate and direct all activities, poli-
23 cies, programs, and funding relating to pan-
24 demic prevention and response, for all Federal
25 agencies;

1 “(C) direct, as appropriate, Federal Gov-
2 ernment resources to respond to needs for pan-
3 demic prevention and response; and

4 “(D) lead interagency coordination for
5 pandemic prevention and response, including
6 regular consultation with nongovernmental or-
7 ganizations and public health officials working
8 to prevent and respond to pandemics.

9 “(4) AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT THE UNITED
10 STATES.—The Coordinator may represent the
11 United States in bilateral and multilateral discus-
12 sions and agreements on matters relevant to pan-
13 demic prevention and response.”.

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