

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7496

To require Federal agencies to submit plans for responding to any resurgence of COVID–19, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 6, 2020

Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself, Mr. KATKO, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. KIM, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. CROW, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

A BILL

To require Federal agencies to submit plans for responding to any resurgence of COVID–19, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “COVID Preparedness,
5 Response, and Effective Planning for Advanced Require-
6 ments by the Executive Branch Act” or the “COVID
7 PREPARE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COVID-19 RESURGENCE PLAN.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each agency
4 shall submit to Congress an initial report detailing an ac-
5 tion plan, informed by research and best practices learned
6 from the onset of COVID-19 and previous presidentially
7 declared emergencies, for addressing the needs and miti-
8 gating and eliminating the risks and challenges associated
9 with any resurgence in COVID-19 cases, that includes—

10 (1) agency priorities for preparing for and re-
11 sponding to any resurgence of COVID-19, including
12 continuity of operations and fulfilling the mission of
13 the agency;

14 (2) measurable goals specific to priorities and a
15 time line for addressing each priority;

16 (3) anticipated challenges to addressing prior-
17 ities and how the agency will address such chal-
18 lenges;

19 (4) how the agency will consult with Congress,
20 the public, State and municipal governments, and
21 relevant stakeholders while working remotely; and

22 (5) how the agency plans to issue relevant guid-
23 ance to entities under the jurisdiction of the agency.

24 (b) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not later than 60 days
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly
26 thereafter until the President ends the declared emer-

1 agency, the head of each agency shall submit to Congress
2 a report that provides an update of the details submitted
3 in the plan under subsection (a), including—

4 (1) the status of each priority;

5 (2) an explanation for any goal that has not
6 been met within the specified time frame; and

7 (3) any changes or updates to the plan.

8 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the
10 meaning given that term in section 551 of title 5,
11 United States Code.

12 (2) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
13 the several States, the District of Columbia, each
14 commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United
15 States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

○