

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To provide for the establishment of a COVID–19 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Task Force to gather data about disproportionately affected communities and provide recommendations to combat the racial and ethnic disparities in the COVID–19 response.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—116th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 4204

To establish an Interagency Task Force to analyze preparedness for national pandemics, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENTS intended to be proposed by

Viz:

1 On page 2, between lines 5 and 6, insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 (2) The Director of the Office of Minority
4 Health.

5 (3) The Director of the Indian Health Service.

6 On page 5, between lines 7 and 8, insert the fol-
7 lowing:

1 (6) not later than 30 days after the date on
2 which the task force first meets, and every other
3 month thereafter, submitting to Congress and the
4 Federal Emergency Management Agency a report
5 that includes—

6 (A) the identification of communities that
7 lack resources to combat the COVID–19 pan-
8 demic, including personal protective equipment,
9 ventilators, hospital beds, testing kits, testing
10 supplies, vaccinations (when available), re-
11 sources to conduct surveillance and contact
12 tracing, funding, staffing, and other resources
13 the task force deems essential as needs arise;

14 (B) the identification of communities
15 where racial and ethnic disparities in COVID–
16 19 infection, hospitalization, and death rates
17 are out of proportion to the community’s popu-
18 lation by a certain threshold, to be determined
19 by the task force based on available public
20 health data;

21 (C) recommendations about how to best al-
22 locate critical COVID–19 resources to—

23 (i) communities with disproportion-
24 ately high COVID–19 infection, hos-
25 pitalization, and death rates;

- 1 (ii) communities with high social
2 vulnerabilities to COVID–19 infection; and
3 (iii) communities identified in sub-
4 paragraph (B);
5 (D) with respect to communities that are
6 able to reduce racial and ethnic disparities ef-
7 fectively, a description of best practices in-
8 volved; and
9 (E) a list of experts consulted and the
10 timeline and substance of the consultation;

11 On page 5, line 9, strike “(5)” and insert “(6)”.

12 On page 5, line 14, strike “(5)” and insert “(6)”.

13 On page 5, between lines 17 and 18, insert the fol-
14 lowing:

15 (d) GENERAL CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the
16 reporting requirement described in subsection (c)(6), the
17 task force shall consult with individuals with expertise in
18 addressing racial and ethnic disparities, including health
19 professionals, policy experts, and representatives from
20 community-based organizations from communities identi-
21 fied as disproportionately impacted by COVID–19.