

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6504

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to develop a plan to improve surveillance with respect to diseases that are viral pandemic threats, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 14, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to develop a plan to improve surveillance with respect to diseases that are viral pandemic threats, 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. IMPROVED SURVEILLANCE WITH RESPECT TO**
4 **DISEASES THAT ARE VIRAL PANDEMIC**
5 **THREATS.**

6 (a) PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of
7 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and

1 Human Services acting through the Director of the Cen-
2 ters for Disease Control and Prevention (in this section
3 referred to as the “Secretary”) shall develop a plan to im-
4 prove surveillance with respect to diseases that are viral
5 pandemic threats, so as to ensure—

6 (1) rapid detection of the spread of such dis-
7 eases;

8 (2) effective sharing of surveillance information,
9 subject to privacy protections for individually identi-
10 fiable information under applicable law; and

11 (3) rapid and coordinated response to such dis-
12 eases by Federal, State, Tribal, territorial, and local
13 public health agencies.

14 (b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordina-
16 tion with development of the plan under subsection
17 (a), shall carry out a competitive pilot program in
18 which the Secretary awards grant to entities for
19 projects—

20 (A) to assesses the state of early detection
21 of diseases that are viral pandemic threats to
22 determine the strengths and weaknesses of the
23 current methods, policies, and procedures for
24 such early detection; and

1 (B) to optimize such early detection
2 through development and implementation of in-
3 novative approaches to the development of rapid
4 or instant tests, methods, policies, and proce-
5 dures over the 4-month period following the
6 date of enactment of this Act.

7 (2) ANNOUNCEMENT.—The Secretary shall an-
8 nounce that—

9 (A) applications for grants under this sub-
10 section will be accepted for 60 days following
11 the announcement; and

12 (B) the grant recipients will be selected
13 within 60 days of the end of the acceptance pe-
14 riod described in subparagraph (A).

15 (3) DURATION OF PROJECTS.—The duration of
16 a project funded under this section shall not exceed
17 6 months unless the grant recipient receives written
18 approval from the Secretary for the project to exceed
19 6 months.

20 (4) COLLABORATION.—Grant recipients under
21 this section may not collaborate on projects funded
22 under this section unless, before approving the col-
23 laboration, the Secretary—

1 (A) determines that such collaboration will
2 further the objectives described in paragraph
3 (1); and

4 (B) gives notice to the congressional com-
5 mittees of jurisdiction that such collaboration
6 will occur.

7 (5) REPORTING BY GRANTEES.—Not later than
8 3 months after completing a project funded under
9 this section, a grant recipient shall submit a report
10 to the Secretary on the results of the project.

11 (6) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 18
12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the
13 Secretary shall submit a report, including a classi-
14 fied annex, to the Congress on the results of the
15 pilot program under this subsection.

16 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
17 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated
18 \$30,000,000.

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