

S 3721

COVID–19 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Task Force Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 13, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (May 13, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3721>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		May 13, 2020
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 13, 2020
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 13, 2020
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		May 13, 2020
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 13, 2020
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		May 13, 2020
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		May 13, 2020
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		May 13, 2020
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		May 13, 2020
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 13, 2020
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		May 13, 2020
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		May 13, 2020
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 13, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 13, 2020
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		May 13, 2020
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		May 13, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 13, 2020
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		May 13, 2020
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 15, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jun 30, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 13, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8200	Related bill	Sep 14, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
116 HR 6763	Related bill	May 8, 2020: Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, Education and Labor, and Oversight and Reform, 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.

Summary (as of May 13, 2020)

COVID-19 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Task Force Act of 2020

This bill establishes the COVID-19 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Task Force within the Department of Health and Human Services and sets forth its duties and membership. The task force must provide reports and recommendations related to racial and ethnic disparities in the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) response to Congress and relevant federal agencies.

First, the task force must report weekly on COVID-19 infections and patient outcomes with data disaggregated by race and ethnicity. The reports must also identify communities with high levels of racial and ethnic disparities in COVID-19 measures and recommend how to allocate health care and other resources to address these disparities. Second, the task force must report biweekly on the disbursement of federal COVID-19 relief funds and how to use any undisbursed funds to address racial and ethnic disparities. Lastly, the task force must submit a final report that describes factors that contributed to racial and ethnic disparities with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic, with recommendations to address them in responses to future infectious disease outbreaks.

The task force terminates 90 days after the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency . However, the bill permanently establishes a successor task force to address racial and ethnic disparities during future public health emergencies.

Actions Timeline

- May 13, 2020: Introduced in Senate
- May 13, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.