

S 4322

Safely Back to School and Back to Work Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jul 27, 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. (Jul 27, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4322>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]

Party: Republican • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 27, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8075	Related bill	Aug 21, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
116 HR 7804	Related bill	Jul 27, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
116 HR 7731	Related bill	Jul 22, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
116 S 4239	Related bill	Jul 21, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
116 S 4249	Related bill	Jul 21, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
116 S 4221	Related bill	Jul 20, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
116 S 4231	Related bill	Jul 20, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S4267-4270)
116 S 4063	Related bill	Jun 24, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text: CR S3209)

Safely Back to School and Back to Work Act

This bill makes multiple changes to federal public health, education, and workforce training programs in order to respond to the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency.

With respect to public health programs, the bill establishes grant programs, provides contracting and other authorities, and directs other activities pertaining to

- biomedical research and development of vaccines, diagnostic tests, and countermeasures;
- the administration of the Strategic National Stockpile;
- public health preparedness and response; and
- other issues related to COVID-19, such as allowing employers to temporarily offer telehealth benefits to employees who do not otherwise qualify for health benefits and prohibiting the collection or use of genetic material from COVID-19 tests without written, informed consent.

With respect to education and certain workforce programs, the bill

- revises student loan repayment programs, including by consolidating repayment options;
- allows the Department of Education to waive certain statutory and regulatory requirements for elementary and secondary schools and career, technical, and adult education programs;
- establishes grant programs concerning child care providers, eligible scholarship-granting organizations, and certain workers impacted by COVID-19; and
- makes other changes to programs and funding for higher education, elementary and secondary education, and workforce training.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 27, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 27, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.