

HR 6853

UNITE Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: May 13, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management. (May 14, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6853>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Crow, Jason [D-CO-6]	D · CO		May 13, 2020
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		May 13, 2020
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		May 13, 2020
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		May 13, 2020
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		May 13, 2020
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		May 13, 2020
Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7]	D · VA		May 13, 2020
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		May 13, 2020
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		May 22, 2020
Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Jun 4, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	May 13, 2020
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	May 14, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 3642	Related bill	May 7, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Undertaking National Initiatives to Tackle Epidemic Act of 2020 or the UNITE Act of 2020

This bill responds to the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency by increasing volunteer opportunities within AmeriCorps and employment opportunities at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and requiring the re-enrollment of Peace Corps volunteers whose service ended involuntarily on March 15, 2020, or earlier for volunteers who were serving in China and Mongolia.

Among other things, the bill

- reauthorizes through FY2022 AmeriCorps programs;
- increases recruitment levels of its volunteers to 500,000 in FY2020-FY2022;
- sets the minimum compensation for AmeriCorps volunteers, beginning in FY2020, at 200% of the poverty line applicable to a family of one;
- increases the ceiling on grant amounts to such volunteers from \$18,000 to \$25,000 and the grant maximum amount limit to meet program needs;
- requires FEMA to appoint, administer, and expedite the training of an additional 62,000 Cadre of On-Call Response/Recovery Employees in FY2020-FY2022 above the level of such employees in FY2019 to address the COVID-19 health emergency; and
- authorizes the President to pay a state, tribal, or local government in which a major disaster has been declared stipends for temporary workers conducting nonpartisan official election poll worker services.

Actions Timeline

- **May 14, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
- **May 13, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **May 13, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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.