

## HR 7546

### Minority Community Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2020

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jul 9, 2020

**Current Status:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. (Jul 9, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7546>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 9, 2020
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 9, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4944	Related bill	<b>Dec 2, 2020:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 HR 3910	Related bill	<b>Jul 24, 2019:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **Minority Community Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2020**

This bill establishes a grant program for COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) preparedness and response in medically underserved communities where the disease disproportionately affects racial and ethnic minority groups. It also modifies the scope and administration of demonstration models carried out by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) to address health inequity.

With respect to the grant program, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must award grants to government entities, giving priority to local governments and county health departments, for contact tracing, other public health activities, and the provision of nutrition assistance and quarantine housing. HHS may also support planning activities for entities that intend to apply for these grants.

As a condition for receiving funding, grantees must establish, or designate an existing body as, a COVID-19/infectious disease planning council. The council must reflect the demographics of the populations most impacted by COVID-19, and its responsibilities shall include developing a plan for the delivery of health care and support services to address COVID-19 and establishing priorities for allocating funding.

In addition, the CMMI must test a payment model that addresses social determinants of health and health disparities, particularly with respect to minorities, underserved areas, and high-risk individuals. The bill also generally incorporates consideration of such factors into the selection, implementation, and evaluation of other models, including the decision as to whether to expand a model's duration and scope.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 9, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 9, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 9, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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.

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