

S 2297

International Pandemic Preparedness and COVID-19 Response Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Jun 24, 2021

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 112.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 112. (Jul 30, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2297>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 24, 2021
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 20, 2021
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Nov 2, 2021
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Nov 15, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 30, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

International Pandemic Preparedness and COVID-19 Response Act of 2021

This bill outlines U.S. foreign policy to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and to future pandemics and disasters.

With respect to COVID-19, the Department of State must develop a strategy to expand and expedite access to COVID-19 vaccines in other countries. The bill also allows for the use of any foreign assistance for activities to combat COVID-19, regardless of the original purpose of the funding. Additionally, the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development must protect and support humanitarian actors responding to secondary effects of the pandemic (e.g., food insecurity).

Furthermore, the State Department must report on, and take other steps to address, restrictions and violations of human rights in the COVID-19 response measures of other countries, and the U.S. Agency for Global Media must focus its communication programs on combating propaganda and providing accurate information related to COVID-19.

With respect to future pandemics and disasters, the bill (1) designates agencies responsible for carrying out preparedness and response activities, and (2) authorizes a committee within the National Security Council to coordinate government-wide response efforts. Additionally, the President must establish a strategy for advancing U.S. global health security; the bill creates a position in the State Department to promote this strategy.

Moreover, the State Department must work with other international actors to establish a financing mechanism and otherwise promote global health security, including by strengthening health systems and disease surveillance in developing countries.

Additionally, funding authorized by this bill may not be made available to China.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 30, 2021:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Menendez with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Jul 30, 2021:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 112.
- **Jul 28, 2021:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jun 24, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 24, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.