

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6701

To require a longitudinal study on the impact of COVID–19.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2020

Ms. ESHOO (for herself, Mr. BURGESS, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. GUTHRIE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require a longitudinal study on the impact of COVID–
19.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ensuring Under-
5 standing of COVID–19 to Protect Public Health Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF COVID–19.**

7 Part A of title IV of the Public Health Service Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 281 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
9 the following:

1 **“SEC. 4040. STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of NIH, in con-
3 sultation with the Director of the Centers for Disease Con-
4 trol and Prevention, shall conduct a longitudinal study,
5 over not less than 10 years, on the full impact of COVID-
6 19 on infected individuals, including both short-term and
7 long-term health impacts.

8 “(b) TIMING.—The Director of NIH shall begin en-
9 rolling patients in the study under this section not later
10 than 6 months after the date of enactment of this section.

11 “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The study under this section
12 shall—

13 “(1) be nationwide;

14 “(2) include diversity of enrollees to account for
15 gender, age, race, ethnicity, geography, comorbidi-
16 ties, and underrepresented populations, including
17 pregnant and lactating women;

18 “(3) study individuals who were infected with
19 COVID-19 who experienced mild symptoms, such
20 individuals who experienced moderate symptoms,
21 and such individuals who experienced severe symp-
22 toms;

23 “(4) monitor the health outcomes and symp-
24 toms of individuals who were infected with COVID-
25 19, or had prenatal exposure to COVID-19, includ-
26 ing lung capacity and function, and immune re-

1 sponse, taking into account any pharmaceutical
2 interventions such individuals may have received;

3 “(5) monitor the mental health outcomes of in-
4 dividuals infected with COVID–19, taking into ac-
5 count any interventions that affected mental health;
6 and

7 “(6) monitor individuals enrolled in the study
8 not less frequently than twice per year after the first
9 year of the individual’s infection with COVID–19.

10 “(d) PUBLIC-PRIVATE RESEARCH NETWORK.—For
11 purposes of carrying out the study under this section, the
12 Director of NIH may develop a network of public-private
13 research partners, provided that all research, including the
14 research carried out through any such partner, is available
15 publicly.

16 “(e) SUMMARIES OF FINDINGS.—The Director of
17 NIH shall make public a summary of findings under this
18 section not less frequently than once every 3 months for
19 the first 2 years of the study, and not less frequently than
20 every 6 months thereafter. Such summaries may include
21 information about how the findings of the study under this
22 section compare with findings from research conducted
23 abroad.

1 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
3 necessary to carry out this section.”.

○