

National Task Force on the COVID–19 Pandemic Act **By Senators Ernst, Feinstein, Gillibrand, and Marshall**

Purpose: To establish the ‘National Task Force on the COVID–19 Pandemic’ in order to better understand and manage the increasing likelihood of pandemic threats and related health issues that the United States could face in the future.

Summary: Establishes the ‘Task Force’ to conduct an investigation on the COVID-19 outbreak and identify lessons learned regarding preparedness, response, and recovery.

The investigation shall address:

- (A) U.S. government response efforts,
- (B) public health messaging,
- (C) international cooperation in responding to and investigating COVID-19,
- (D) the availability of medical supplies and personal protective equipment,
- (E) the development and distribution of treatments and vaccines,
- (F) capacity of the U.S. health care system,
- (G) language variations regarding novel diseases and how that relates to stigma/discrimination for certain communities,
- (H) the origins of COVID-19, and
- (I) any other subject the Commission determines relevant in developing recommendations to prepare for future pandemics.

Composition: The Task Force shall be composed of 12 members (6 members appointed by each party).

Reporting: The Task Force shall submit to the President and Congress, and make publicly available, an interim report not later than 180 days after the date of the bill’s enactment and a final report not later than 18 months after the initial meeting of the Task Force.

Powers: The Task Force has authority to hold hearings, take testimony, administer oaths, and issue subpoenas.