

## Summary of Emergency Supplemental Funding to Continue Efforts to Combat COVID

Prepared by the Office of Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.)

The last two years have been difficult for everyone. However, the COVID pandemic is finally beginning to loosen its grip on our lives and the lives of our loved ones. This emergency funding will support our efforts to provide vaccines both here and abroad, detect new variants, develop the next generation of vaccines, and bolster testing capacity in communities around the country. Importantly, it builds on our support for a global response and vaccination effort because to end the pandemic we must stop COVID from spreading both here and abroad and prevent new variants from emerging.

Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) Wednesday announced a \$15.6 billion bipartisan agreement to provide emergency, supplemental funding to continue efforts to combat the COVID pandemic by ensuring access to vaccines, testing, and therapeutics needed to combat this virus both here and abroad.

## Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund

The emergency supplemental includes \$10.6 billion for the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund. The funding will support efforts at the Department of Health and Human Services to purchase vaccines, therapeutics, and tests to ensure they are readily available to prevent and treat COVID and potential future variants. The bill includes:

- \$9.85 billion to support advanced research and development, manufacturing, production, and the purchase of vaccines, therapeutics diagnostics, and supplies by the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA). This funding will support:
  - Oral antivirals, which are highly effective at preventing severe disease, monoclonal antibodies, and pre-exposure prophylaxis to prevent infection in immunocompromised people.
  - Purchase of pediatric vaccines and boosters for children ages 5 to 15.
  - The development of a next generation COVID vaccine that would offer broader protection and replace the need to develop a new vaccine for each variant.
  - \$750 million specifically for research and clinical trials for vaccines focused on emerging coronavirus strains and to support domestic manufacturing capacity.
  - Purchase of supplies for the Strategic National Stockpile and maintaining domestic production of critical supplies during periods of time when coronavirus poses less of a threat.

## **Global Response to the COVID Pandemic**

The emergency supplemental includes \$5 billion in emergency international funding to support the ongoing global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill includes:

- \$4.45 billion for vaccination readiness and delivery efforts such as support for the Global VAX initiative, as well as non-vaccine health efforts, including testing, therapeutics, technical assistance, and training of healthcare workers.
- \$500 million for food and other humanitarian assistance to countries hardest hit by the pandemic, of which \$425 million is for International Disaster Assistance and \$75 million is for Migration and Refugee Assistance.
- \$50 million is provided for the administrative and operating needs of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Department of State to support the COVID-19 response.

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