

Health Force, Resilience Force, and Jobs to Fight COVID Act has been endorsed by leading public health organizations, health care organizations, and world-renowned experts, including:

Center for Popular Democracy Action

“In our interconnected world, public health requires well-paid health workers in every community to ensure widespread access to vital health information and we know it works best when the workers come from the communities they serve. Immigrant workers in particular are playing an essential role in keeping all of us safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Center for Popular Democracy Action supports Health Force and Resilience Force Act as a key component to creating the public health infrastructure that we need to protect the communities most impacted by COVID to protect ALL of us.” -Ana Maria Archilla, Co-Executive Director, Center for Popular Democracy Action

Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH)

“Having a Standing Health and Resilience Health Force to address public health emergencies is a ground breaking step towards building a US public health infrastructure. The current system has been found to be lacking — it’s shortcomings are visible in both the deficit of monetary support and the need for emergency human resources to aid at the community level and in native American tribal areas during public health emergencies such as COVID-19.”

Families USA

“At a time when so many Americans are under or unemployed, and suffering financially due to COVID-19, the Health Force, Resilience Force, and Jobs to Fight COVID Act would create much-needed jobs by employing community health frontline workers. Equally important, it will combat health inequities by recruiting individuals who are reflective of the communities they serve, thereby leveraging assets within communities hardest hit by the pandemic.” -- Amber Hewitt, Director of Health Equity.

HealthBegins

"The Health Force bill can help us scale vaccination efforts, end the pandemic, create thousands of jobs, and protect the health of our hardest-hit communities. As it paves the way for the US Public Health Jobs Corps, the Health Force bill will mobilize trusted community-based organizations and workers to help fight the pandemic, create jobs to rebuild our public health infrastructure, and fast-track local economic recovery."

- Dr. Rishi Manchanda, CEO, HealthBegins

Insight Metrics

“Community Health Workers are an essential part of a nimble and resilient health response, that the has US supported worldwide. The Health and Resilience Force Bill will be instrumental in rebounding from the pandemic, and addressing persistent health inequities in our communities.”

--Dr. Nirali Chakraborty, Managing Partner, Insight Metrics

Last Mile Health

"To end the pandemic, we cannot wait for people to come to care, we have to bring care to people — to their community centers, to their places of worship, to the town square, and to their homes. The Health Force bill would immediately bolster our fight against COVID-19 by expanding our public health workforce, recruited directly from the communities hit hardest to serve their neighbors, while also setting up the foundation to respond to the long-term needs of the health system, including epidemic preparedness." - Dr. Raj Panjabi, CEO of Last Mile Health

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National Hispanic Medical Association

"The Health Force, Resilience Force, and Jobs to Fight COVID Act of 2021 will address the United States' need for an innovative health workforce, to respond to COVID-19 through a collaboration between Federal government, local public health departments and non-profit organizations, to recruit and train Americans for community-based health-related services, and especially to increase Latinos and other underrepresented in health careers."-- Dr. Elena Rios, President and CEO

National Peace Corps Association

"We are grateful to Senators Markey and Van Hollen for their leadership in combating the pandemic, and for recognizing the important role Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and others can play in this response," said Glenn Blumhorst, President and CEO of National Peace Corps Association. "The resilience and resourcefulness of individuals who successfully served in Peace Corps are exactly the type of skills FEMA will be seeking in filling the ranks of the proposed CORE employee workforce."

Partners In Health

"Partners In Health welcomes this proactive proposal rooted at the intersection of public health and social justice. We need a long-term public health workforce that will be recruited from and reflective of the needs of their communities at the state and local levels, and that is exactly what this legislation will build. This is a key to ensuring a more equitable COVID-19 response and a stronger public health system." -- Cate Oswald, Chief Policy and Partnership Officer

Resilience Force

"American resilience depends on a large scale workforce to combat the COVID-19 disaster and to help us face future disasters. Vaccinations, school reopenings, and economic recovery are all at stake. The Health Force and Resilience Force Act is desperately needed and right on time." -- Saket Soni, Executive Director, Resilience Force

Right to Health Action [R2H Action]

"COVID-19 has shone a spotlight on the urgent need for hundreds of thousands of new public health jobs to combat the pandemic and rebuild healthy communities. We need Senator Gillibrand's Health Force, and we need it now—not only to bring a definitive end to the current crisis, but to stop this nightmare from ever happening again. These workers will provide support to those dealing with the long-term consequences of COVID, and provide services and community mobilization to address rampant health disparities that make those who are poor and sick even more prone to this pandemic—and the next." - Akshita Siddula, Community Organizing Director, R2H Action [Right to Health].

Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

"Frontline workers like me have first-hand experience with the consequences that come as a result of lawmakers' decisions. This pandemic has been a stark reminder of how underfunding affects care delivery, and sadly, it's only widened existing gaps. Senator Gillibrand and Senator Bennet's "Health Force" bill will invest in the good jobs and public health infrastructure our communities need to beat this virus. We need similar leadership from others to turn the corner and fully recover from the effects of this unprecedented health crisis." - Shamika Ossey,

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Registered Nurse with the LA County Department of Public Health Emergency Preparedness & Response Division on behalf of SEIU

Craig Fugate, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 2009-2017

"FEMA has a unique role to play in hiring a flexible workforce that can respond quickly to disasters like COVID. The Health Force and Resilience Force taps into this powerful workforce to hire and deploy FEMA members to some of our country's hardest hit communities."

LaToya Cantrell, Mayor of New Orleans, Louisiana

"In order to ensure that we are sustainably rebuilding our economies and making our cities more resilient to disasters, it is vital that we continue to build up our community-based workforces. We've put in this work in New Orleans, and we are seeing the benefits. Our New Orleans Resilience Corps of community health workers are saving lives and creating good jobs in our city for our people."

2021 All Endorsing Organizations

- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association (BCBS)
- Center for Popular Democracy Action
- Communications Workers of America (CWA)
- Community Health Acceleration Partnership, hosting by the office of the World Health Organization Ambassador for Global Strategy
- Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH)
- Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA)
- HealthBegins
- Insight Metrics
- FamiliesUSA
- Last Mile Health
- Metrics for Management
- National Hispanic Medical Association
- National Partnership for Women & Families
- National Peace Corps Association
- National Employment Law Project (NELP)
- Partners In Health
- Resilience Force
- Right to Health Action (R2H)
- Service Employees International Union (SEIU)