

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

SEPTEMBER 2021 LEGISLATION DOCKET



September 2021 Legislation

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A Bill to Provide Recurring Stimulus Payments

A Bill to Provide Recurring Stimulus Payments

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** United States taxpayers will receive recurring stimulus checks until Congress has
- determined that COVID-19 is sufficiently under control to warrant tapering or complete elimination of
- 4 recurring payments.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** United States taxpayers and their families who were eligible for earlier coronavirus
- 6 stimulus checks will be eligible for recurring stimulus payments as determined by the Internal Revenue
- 7 Service.
- 8 SECTION 3. All eligible U.S. adult citizens will receive \$1000 stimulus checks each month and each
- eligible child of U.S. adult citizens will receive \$500 stimulus checks each month.
- **SECTION 4.** The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service shall oversee
- implementation of this legislation.
- **SECTION 5.** This legislation takes effect immediately.
- **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Encourage Municipal Ownership of Internet Services

A Resolution to Encourage Municipal Ownership of Internet Services

- 1 WHEREAS the U.S. Senate passed a bipartisan infrastructure package with \$65 billion for Internet
- 2 connectivity; and
- 3 WHEREAS consumer advocacy groups argue that cities should build their own Internet services to
- 4 expand connectivity nationwide; and
- 5 WHEREAS municipal broadband is that which is partially or fully owned by local governments; and
- 6 WHEREAS municipal broadband is not motivated by profits but by providing services to its residents;
- 7 and
- 8 WHEREAS the original American Jobs Plan included the promotion of competition by eliminating
- 9 "barriers that prevent municipally-owned or affiliated providers and rural electric co-ops from
- competing on an even playing field with private providers"; and
- 11 **WHEREAS** the digital divide must be narrowed; now, therefore be it
- 12 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that municipal development and ownership of Internet
- services should be encouraged and that individual states should support the efforts of municipalities,
- including, but not limited to, easing regulatory burdens or eliminating outright bans of municipal
- 15 Internet ownership.

A Bill to Provide Wildfire Aid

A Bill to Provide Wildfire Aid

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1** Aid will be provided to Algeria, Greece, and Turkey to combat wildfires.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** \$10 billion in aid may be in the form of direct payments, firefighting supplies and
- 4 equipment, personnel, or some combination thereof.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will oversee the distribution of funds and enforcement of this
- 6 legislation.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately.
- 8 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

An Amendment to the American Rescue Plan

An Amendment to the American Rescue Plan

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Permit the use of American Rescue Plan funding for debt relief by states and cities.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** This action overturns the temporary ban of spending on debt relief by Secretary Yellen
- 4 and makes Congressional intent clear.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The original rescue plan provides \$350 billion in aid to state and local governments. This
- 6 amendment allows state and local governments to maintain autonomy to determine how those funds
- 7 are appropriated.
- 8 **SECTION 4.** The Department of the Treasury will honor and oversee the enforcement of this
- 9 legislation.
- SECTION 5. This legislation will take effect immediately. For those state and local governments that
- have already issued determinations of how their funds will be spent, they may amend their
- 12 appropriations to allow for debt repayment within two months of the passage of this bill.
- 13 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill for Worldwide Vaccine Distribution

A Bill for Worldwide Vaccine Distribution

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will share 25% of its surplus vaccine stock through direct donations and
- 3 share another 25% of its surplus vaccine stock through COVAX's multi-lateral pool.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Surplus stock consists of vaccine supplies that are above-and-beyond that needed to fully
- 5 vaccinate the United States' population with one or two shots, based upon the vaccine's dosage for full
- 6 vaccination. Stock for a third booster shot may not be pulled from the portion of the surplus designated
- 7 for donation.
- 8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State and the Department of Health and Human Services will oversee
- 9 the distribution of vaccine surpluses.
- **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately.
- **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Address Concerns with COVAX

A Resolution to Address Concerns with COVAX

- 1 WHEREAS COVAX has distributed fewer than 200 million doses worldwide at the time of the writing
- of this resolution, far short of its goal of 640 million doses; and
- 3 WHEREAS some supplies of COVAX vaccines have expired prior to distribution in countries lacking
- 4 infrastructure for cold storage, delivery, and distribution; and
- 5 WHEREAS all nations, both wealthy and non-wealthy alike, are affected by uncontrolled spread of
- 6 COVID variants; and
- 7 WHEREAS the needs for each country vary in terms of the assistance needed and the specific type of
- 8 vaccines required to address the most prominent variants of COVID affecting their region; and
- 9 WHEREAS some nations have a surplus of vaccines while others wait for months to gain access to
- 10 life-saving vaccinations; and
- 11 **WHEREAS** as Dr. Ayoade Alakija, co-chair of the African Union's vaccine delivery program, has stated,
- "Covax hasn't failed, but it is failing. We really have no other options. For the sake of humanity, Covax
- must work"; now, therefore be it
- 14 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that COVAX concerns must be addressed by the
- 15 governing officers, partners, and nations which contribute to its success. The United States is prepared
- to offer additional resources and personnel to the success of COVAX as these concerns are addressed.
- 17 These concerns include, but are not limited to, 1) ensuring sufficient supplies and protection of vaccines;
- 2) ensuring cold storage chains; 3) training of health professionals to administer the shots; 4) ensuring
- appropriate methods of deployment from delivery to distribution; 5) mobilizing people to attend
- vaccination centers, when vaccines are available; 6) combat social media disinformation and
- misinformation campaigns; 7) Work with the World Health Organization to create a roadmap for rapid,
- yet realistic, vaccination efforts worldwide.

A Bill to Regulate Graduate Schools

A Bill to Regulate Graduate Schools

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Establish caps for Grad Plus loan programs of \$50,000 for a master's degree and \$100,000
- for a terminal degree (e.g., M.F.A, J.D. Ph.D).
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Eliminate loan forgiveness programs that waive remaining debt after a 20 to 25 year
- 5 payoff period.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect January 1, 2023. Forgiveness programs for those who took
- 8 out loans prior to January 1, 2022 will remain intact.
- 9 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Support the Middle East

A Resolution to Support the Middle East

- 1 WHEREAS President Biden's recent actions in Afghanistan have contributed to political, social, and
- 2 economic turmoil in the Middle East; and
- 3 WHEREAS members of Congress from diverse political perspectives have expressed concern and
- 4 regret over the methods and timing of withdrawal of remaining United States' forces and its allies in
- 5 Afghanistan; and
- 6 WHEREAS the Taliban were unable to secure Kabul's airport resulting in casualties to United States'
- 7 military personnel and our allies; and
- 8 WHEREAS Middle East political, social, and economic stability is essential to the interests of the
- 9 United States and its allies; and
- 10 WHEREAS United States' efforts to combat terrorism remain long after our withdrawal from
- 11 Afghanistan; and
- 12 WHEREAS the United States has troops stationed throughout the Middle East; and
- 13 WHEREAS there are United States' citizens, allies, and vulnerable populations who will remain long
- after August 31; now, therefore be it
- 15 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that we implore the Commander-in-Chief of the United
- 16 States' Armed Forces to increase personnel and equipment for our allies in the Middle East, including
- but not limited to troop deployment on or near Afghan borders, and to provide a check against other
- states, including Syria and Iran, that consider our departure from Afghanistan as a signal that we are
- abandoning our allies in the Middle East.

An Amendment on State Antitrust Venues

An Amendment on State Antitrust Venues

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** To amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising
- under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant.
- 4 SECTION 2. Section 1407 of title 28 of the United States Code is amended 1) in subsection (g) by
- inserting "or a State" after "United States" and 2) striking subsection (h).
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission and the United States Department of Justice will oversee
- 7 enforcement of this legislation.
- 8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect January 1, 2022.
- 9 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Note: This bill mirrors H.R. 3460 and is currently under review by the judiciary committee.

A Bill to Support Climate-Vulnerable Island Nations

A Bill to Support Climate-Vulnerable Island Nations

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Create an Island Nation Fund of \$100 billion for climate-vulnerable independent coastal
- states to take active measures to repair damage and protect states from climate change disasters.
- 4 SECTION 2. The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and its 39 member states will submit funding
- 5 and action proposals to an Island Nation Congressional Committee.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will oversee enforcement and distribution of the funds.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately.
- 8 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.