

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4459

To amend the CARES Act to modify the membership requirements of the Congressional Oversight Commission.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2020

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. BOOKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend the CARES Act to modify the membership requirements of the Congressional Oversight Commission.

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 “CARES Congressional
5 Oversight Commission Diversity Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The COVID–19 pandemic is having signifi-
9 cantly disparate health and economic impacts on
10 various populations.

1 (2) According to the Centers for Disease Con-
2 trol and Prevention, long-standing systemic health
3 and social inequities have put some members of ra-
4 cial and ethnic minority groups at increased risk of
5 getting COVID–19, regardless of age.

6 (3) Non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska
7 Native individuals have an infection rate approxi-
8 mately 5 times that of non-Hispanic White individ-
9 uals.

10 (4) Non-Hispanic Black individuals have an in-
11 fection rate of approximately 5 times that of non-
12 Hispanic White individuals.

13 (5) Hispanic and Latino individuals have an in-
14 fection rate of approximately 4 times that of non-
15 Hispanic White individuals.

16 (6) According the Household Pulse Survey, 6 in
17 10 Hispanic individuals were in households that lost
18 some employment income over the 3-month period
19 between March and June of 2020. During that same
20 time period, more than 50 percent of Black, multira-
21 cial, and individuals of other races were in house-
22 holds with employment income loss.

23 (7) The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
24 surveyed leadership representing Tribal govern-
25 ments, Tribal enterprises, and other Tribal organiza-

1 tions. In that survey, over 30 percent of Tribal en-
2 terprises reported they had to lay off or furlough 80
3 to 100 percent of their workforce at the time of the
4 survey.

5 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION.**

6 Section 4020(c)(1) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C.
7 9055(c)(1)) is amended—

8 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
9 by striking “5” and inserting “9”;

10 (2) in subparagraphs (A) through (D), strike
11 “1” each place the term appears and insert “2”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(F) At least 1 of the 2 members ap-
14 pointed under each of subparagraphs (A)
15 through (D) shall be from a group that has
16 been disproportionately negatively impacted by
17 the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID–19) pan-
18 demic of 2020 and the economic recession re-
19 sulting from the pandemic.”.

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