

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend the national service laws to prioritize national service programs and projects that are directly related to the response to and recovery from the COVID–19 public health emergency, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. REED, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KING, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. UDALL, and Ms. STABENOW) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the national service laws to prioritize national service programs and projects that are directly related to the response to and recovery from the COVID–19 public health emergency, and for other purposes.

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 “Pandemic Response
5 and Opportunity Through National Service Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The United States has a strong history of
2 citizen response to national calls to service in order
3 to help the Nation recover in times of crisis.

4 (2) More than 80 years ago, the Nation rose to
5 the challenge of the Great Depression with the cre-
6 ation of citizen service programs like the Civilian
7 Conservation Corps (referred to in this section as
8 the “CCC”) and the Works Progress Administration
9 (referred to in this section as the “WPA”).

10 (3) Millions of participants benefitted from paid
11 employment and opportunities to develop their skills
12 while constructing national parks and public lands
13 infrastructure and producing cultural works still en-
14 joyed today.

15 (4) Following decades of evolution, incor-
16 porating policies of both political parties, today’s na-
17 tional service programs carry on the legacy of the
18 CCC and WPA.

19 (5) Founded in 1990, the Corporation for Na-
20 tional and Community Service today coordinates na-
21 tional service by individuals in the United States
22 across every State and territory, partnering with
23 State-level commissions and supporting locally driv-
24 en services in partnership with nongovernmental or-
25 ganizations and State governments.

1 (6) National service programs provide public
2 health, education, employment training, and nutri-
3 tion services for which the Nation has a critical need
4 in the current crisis.

5 (7) The signature programs of the Corporation
6 for National and Community Service, which are the
7 AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps Na-
8 tional Civilian Community Corps, AmeriCorps
9 VISTA, and National Senior Service Corps pro-
10 grams, can and should be expanded to meet current
11 needs.

12 (8) The novel coronavirus pandemic has in-
13 fected and killed individuals in every State and terri-
14 tory, causing more than 1,000,000 cases and 65,000
15 deaths so far.

16 (9) In response, States, tribal governments, and
17 cities across the country have closed down busi-
18 nesses, schools, and public events, leading to a dra-
19 matic drop in economic activity and a sharp pro-
20 jected decline in the United States economy.

21 (10) More than 30,000,000 applications for un-
22 employment benefits have been filed in recent weeks,
23 with weekly filings repeatedly exceeding historic
24 record levels.

1 (11) More than 1 in every 10 adults in the
2 United States has applied for unemployment insur-
3 ance since the crisis began.

4 (12) Public health leaders agree that to safely
5 reopen the Nation and revive its economy, a massive
6 effort to test millions of individuals in the United
7 States and to trace contacts of those who are or may
8 be infected is needed.

9 (13) To recover, the Nation also needs mean-
10 ingful employment opportunities, as well as a signifi-
11 cant expansion of the human capital working to ad-
12 dress community needs around public health, behav-
13 ioral health, hunger, education, and conservation.

14 (14) As the Nation works to respond to and re-
15 cover from the current twin challenges of a public
16 health pandemic and an economic crisis, national
17 service presents a unique opportunity for flexible, lo-
18 cally driven responses to meet State and local public
19 health, employment, and recovery needs.

20 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

21 The purposes of this Act are—

22 (1) to provide for 750,000 participants, over 3
23 years, in national service programs, such as the
24 Public Land Corps (also known as the 21st Century
25 Conservation Service Corps) programs and other

1 AmeriCorps programs, that will provide services in
2 response to the pandemic and economic crisis, in-
3 cluding to help satisfy the projected need for as
4 many as 300,000 additional public health workers;

5 (2) to ensure that participant allowances cover
6 the reasonable cost of participation and provide par-
7 ticipants with economic and educational opportunity;

8 (3) to stabilize such national service programs
9 during economic crisis; and

10 (4) to support opportunities for all individuals
11 in the United States to engage in service.

12 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

13 (a) NCSA.—Section 101 of the National and Com-
14 munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511) is amend-
15 ed—

16 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (13) through
17 (35) and paragraphs (36) through (49) as para-
18 graphs (14) through (36) and (38) through (51), re-
19 spectively;

20 (2) by inserting after paragraph (12) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(13) COVID–19 DEFINITIONS.—

23 “(A) COVID–19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE
24 AND RECOVERY PERIOD.—The term ‘COVID–
25 19 emergency response and recovery period’

1 means the period beginning on the first day of
2 the COVID–19 public health emergency and
3 ending at the end of fiscal year 2023.

4 “(B) COVID–19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMER-
5 GENCY.—The term ‘COVID–19 public health
6 emergency’ means the public health emergency
7 declared by the Secretary of Health and
8 Human Services under section 319 of the Pub-
9 lic Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) on
10 January 31, 2020, with respect to COVID–
11 19.”; and

12 (3) by inserting after paragraph (36), as so re-
13 designated, the following:

14 “(37) PUBLIC LAND CORPS.—The term ‘Public
15 Lands Corps’ means the Corps established in section
16 204 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16
17 U.S.C. 1723).”.

18 (b) DVSA.—Section 421 of the Domestic Volunteer
19 Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5061) is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (19), by striking “and” after
21 the semicolon;

22 (2) in paragraph (20), by striking the period at
23 the end and inserting a semicolon; and

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

1 “(21)(A) the term ‘COVID–19 emergency re-
2 sponse and recovery period’ means the period begin-
3 ning on the first day of the COVID–19 public health
4 emergency and ending at the end of fiscal year
5 2023; and

6 “(B) the term ‘COVID–19 public health emer-
7 gency’ means the public health emergency declared
8 by the Secretary of Health and Human Services
9 under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act
10 (42 U.S.C. 247d) on January 31, 2020, with respect
11 to COVID–19; and

12 “(22) the term ‘Public Lands Corps’ means the
13 Corps established in section 204 of the Public Lands
14 Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1723).”.

15 **SEC. 5. PRIORITIZING RESPONSE SERVICES.**

16 (a) AMERICORPS STATE AND NATIONAL.—

17 (1) NATIONAL SERVICE PRIORITIES.—Section
18 122(f) of the National and Community Service Act
19 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12572(f)) is amended—

20 (A) in paragraph (1)—

21 (i) in subparagraph (A), by adding at
22 the end the following: “For fiscal years
23 2020 through 2023, the Corporation shall
24 include, in the national service priorities,

1 the priorities described in paragraph (5).”;

2 and

3 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by adding at
4 the end the following: “For fiscal years
5 2020 through 2023, each State shall in-
6 clude, in the State priorities, the priorities
7 described in section (5).”; and

8 (B) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(5) EMERGENCY PRIORITIES.—For fiscal years
10 2020 through 2023, the priorities established under
11 paragraph (1) for national service programs shall
12 provide that the Corporation and the States, as ap-
13 propriate, shall give priority to entities submitting
14 applications—

15 “(A) that propose activities directly related
16 to the response to and recovery from the
17 COVID–19 public health emergency, such as
18 the provision of—

19 “(i) public health services, including
20 contact tracing and support for isolation
21 and quarantine activities;

22 “(ii) emergency logistics;

23 “(iii) work that furthers the capacity
24 of State (including territorial), tribal, and
25 local health departments and the rec-

1 ommendations of the Director of the Cen-
2 ters for Disease Control and Prevention;

3 “ (iv) workforce investment activities
4 and reemployment services;

5 “ (v) education, including enrichment
6 and adult education and literacy activities;

7 “ (vi) jobs for youth in preserving and
8 restoring nature; and

9 “ (vii) services to address food insecu-
10 rity;

11 “ (B) who—

12 “ (i) are current (as of the date of the
13 application submission) or former recipi-
14 ents of financial assistance under the pro-
15 gram for which the application is sub-
16 mitted; and

17 “ (ii) are able to provide services di-
18 rectly related to the response and recovery
19 described in subparagraph (A);

20 “ (C) to the maximum extent practicable, if
21 the entities are proposing programs that serve,
22 or proposing to give priority for positions to ap-
23 plicants from, underserved populations, such as
24 economically disadvantaged individuals, minor-
25 ity individuals, individuals who have had con-

1 tact with the juvenile justice system, Indians,
2 veterans, and individuals whose abilities are not
3 typical, such as individuals with intellectual or
4 developmental disabilities; and

5 “(D) that propose to give priority for posi-
6 tions to applicants who—

7 “(i) were serving outside of the
8 United States in the Peace Corps, the J.
9 William Fulbright Educational Exchange
10 Program referenced in section 112 of the
11 Mutual Educational and Cultural Ex-
12 change Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2460), or
13 the program under this subtitle, subtitle E,
14 or part A of title I of the Domestic Volun-
15 teer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4951
16 et seq.); but

17 “(ii) ended their terms of service
18 early, or returned to the United States be-
19 fore the end of their terms of service, due
20 to the COVID–19 public health emer-
21 gency.”.

22 (b) AMERICORPS NCCC.—Section 157 of the Na-
23 tional and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
24 12617) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)(1), by adding at the end
2 the following:

3 “(C) SURGE CAPACITY AND PRIORITY
4 PROJECTS.—

5 “(i) SURGE CAPACITY PROJECTS.—

6 The Corporation and the Director of the
7 Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
8 tion shall develop, and the Corporation
9 shall approve, a proposal for public health
10 surge capacity projects. In carrying out the
11 projects, the Corporation and the Director
12 shall develop and deploy public health
13 surge capacity teams.

14 “(ii) PRIORITY PROJECTS.—For fiscal
15 years 2020 through 2023, the Corporation
16 shall give priority to entities submitting
17 applications for projects under this subtitle
18 in the same manner as the Corporation
19 gives priority to entities submitting appli-
20 cations for national service programs
21 under section 122(f)(5).”; and

22 (2) in subsection (c)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “The
24 campus” and inserting “Except as provided in
25 paragraph (3), the campus”; and

1 (B) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(3) SURGE CAPACITY AND PRIORITY
3 PROJECTS.—The Corporation shall assign the
4 projects described in clauses (i) and (ii) of sub-
5 section (b)(1)(C) to specified Corps campuses.”.

6 (c) AMERICORPS VISTA.—Section 109 of the Do-
7 mestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4960)
8 is amended by adding at the end the following: “For fiscal
9 years 2020 through 2023, the Corporation shall give pri-
10 ority to entities submitting applications for projects or
11 programs under this part in the same manner as the Cor-
12 poration gives priority to entities submitting applications
13 for national service programs under section 122(f)(5) of
14 the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
15 U.S.C. 12572(f)(5)).”.

16 **SEC. 6. STRENGTHENING OPPORTUNITY.**

17 (a) ALLOWANCES.—

18 (1) DOMESTIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACT OF
19 1973.—Section 105(b) of the Domestic Volunteer
20 Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4955(b)) is amend-
21 ed—

22 (A) in paragraph (2)—

23 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
24 “95 percent” and inserting “175 percent”;
25 and

1 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
2 “105 percent” and inserting “185 per-
3 cent”; and

4 (B) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(4)(A) A stipend or allowance under this sec-
6 tion or an allowance under section 140 of the Na-
7 tional and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
8 U.S.C. 12594) shall not be increased as a result of
9 amendments made by the Pandemic Response and
10 Opportunity Through National Service Act, or any
11 other amendment made to this section or that sec-
12 tion 140, respectively, unless the funds appropriated
13 for carrying out this part or subtitle C of the Na-
14 tional and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
15 U.S.C. 12571 et seq.), respectively, are sufficient to
16 maintain for the fiscal year involved a number of
17 participants to serve under this part or that subtitle
18 C, respectively, that is at least equal to the number
19 of such participants so serving during the preceding
20 fiscal year.

21 “(B) In the event that sufficient appropriations
22 for any fiscal year (consistent with subparagraph
23 (A)) are not available to increase any stipend or al-
24 lowance under this section or allowance under sec-
25 tion 140 of the National and Community Service Act

1 of 1990 to the minimum amount specified in this
2 section or under that section 140, respectively, the
3 Director shall increase the stipend or allowance in-
4 volved to such amount as appropriations for such
5 year permit consistent with subparagraph (A).”.

6 (2) NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT
7 OF 1990.—Section 158(b) of the National and Com-
8 munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12618(b)) is
9 amended—

10 (A) by striking “The Director” the first
11 place it appears and inserting the following:

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director”; and

13 (B) by striking “100 percent” and insert-
14 ing “175 percent”.

15 (b) NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.—
16 Section 147(a) of the National and Community Service
17 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12603(a)) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “Except as provided” and in-
19 serting the following:

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided”;

21 (2) by striking “shall receive a national service
22 educational award” and all that follows through “ap-
23 propriations)” and inserting “shall be entitled to a
24 national service educational award equal to the
25 award amount specified in paragraph (2)”;

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

2 “(2) AWARD AMOUNT.—The award referred to
3 in paragraph (1), payable to an individual described
4 in such paragraph, shall be in an amount that is
5 equal to twice the amount of the national average of
6 the cost for in-State tuition and fees at public, 4-
7 year institutions of higher education, for the award
8 year for which the national service position is ap-
9 proved by the Corporation.

10 “(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
11 ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning
12 given the term in section 148(h).”.

13 (c) TAX PROVISIONS.—

14 (1) INCOME TAX EXCLUSION FOR LIVING AL-
15 LOWANCE.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter
17 B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of
18 1986 is amended by inserting after section
19 139H the following new section:

20 **“SEC. 139I. LIVING ALLOWANCE FOR NATIONAL SERVICE**
21 **PARTICIPANTS.**

22 “Gross income does not include the amount of any
23 living allowance provided under section 105(b) of the Do-
24 mestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4955(b))
25 or section 140(a) or 158(b) of the National and Commu-

1 nity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12594(a),
2 12618(b)).”.

3 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of
4 sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter
5 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is
6 amended by inserting after the item relating to
7 section 139H the following new item:

“Sec. 139I. Living allowance for national service participants.”.

8 (C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments
9 made by this paragraph shall apply to taxable
10 years beginning after the date of the enactment
11 of this Act.

12 (2) EXCLUSION FROM GROSS INCOME OF NA-
13 TIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 117 of the In-
15 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to quali-
16 fied scholarships) is amended by adding at the
17 end the following new subsection:

18 “(e) NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.—
19 Gross income shall not include any payments from the Na-
20 tional Service Trust established under section 145 of the
21 National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
22 12601), including the national service educational award
23 described in subtitle D of title I of such Act (42 U.S.C.
24 12601 et seq.).”.

1 (B) EXCLUSION OF DISCHARGE OF STU-
2 DENT LOAN DEBT.—Subsection (f) of section
3 108 of such Code is amended by adding at the
4 end the following new paragraph:

5 “(6) PAYMENTS UNDER NATIONAL SERVICE
6 EDUCATIONAL AWARD PROGRAMS.—In the case of
7 an individual, gross income shall not include any
8 amount received as a national service educational
9 award under subtitle D of title I of the National and
10 Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12601
11 et seq.).”.

12 (C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments
13 made by this paragraph shall apply to taxable
14 years ending after the date of the enactment of
15 this Act.

16 **SEC. 7. INVITING PARTICIPATION.**

17 (a) COORDINATION WITH OTHER YOUTH PRO-
18 GRAMS.—Section 193A of the National and Community
19 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12651d) is amended by
20 adding at the end the following:

21 “(j) COORDINATION WITH OTHER YOUTH PRO-
22 GRAMS.—

23 “(1) COVERED PROGRAMS.—The term ‘covered
24 program’ means—

1 “(A) the YouthBuild program carried out
2 by the Secretary of Labor under section 171 of
3 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
4 (29 U.S.C. 3226);

5 “(B) the program of the Indian Youth
6 Service Corps under section 210 of the Public
7 Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1727b);

8 “(C) a youth conservation corps program
9 under title I of the Act entitled ‘An Act to es-
10 tablish a pilot program in the Departments of
11 the Interior and Agriculture designated as the
12 Youth Conservation Corps, and for other pur-
13 poses’, approved August 13, 1970 (commonly
14 known as the ‘Youth Conservation Corps Act of
15 1970’; 16 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and

16 “(D) the National Guard Youth Challenge
17 Program under section 509 of title 32, United
18 States Code.

19 “(2) COORDINATION.—The Chief Executive Of-
20 ficer, in coordination with the Federal agency rep-
21 resentatives for covered programs, shall develop a
22 plan and make recommendations in the plan to im-
23 prove coordination between covered programs and
24 programs of the Corporation to meet the needs of
25 underserved youth, such as economically disadvan-

1 taged youth, minority youth, youth who left school
2 without a secondary school diploma, formerly incar-
3 cerated or court-involved youth, youth who are chil-
4 dren of an incarcerated parent, youth in foster care
5 (including youth aging out of foster care), migrant
6 youth, and other youth who are neither enrolled in
7 secondary or postsecondary school or participating in
8 the labor market.”.

9 (b) PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE
10 CORPS.—Title IV of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act
11 of 1973 is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating section 421 (42 U.S.C.
13 5061), amended by section 4(b), as section 401;

14 (2) by moving that section 401 so as to follow
15 the title heading for title IV; and

16 (3) by inserting after section 420 (42 U.S.C.
17 5059) the following:

18 **“SEC. 421. ONLINE SERVICE PLATFORM.**

19 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Chief Executive Officer
20 of the Corporation shall establish an online service plat-
21 form with a gateway to connect volunteers in the National
22 Senior Service Corps with service projects and enable the
23 volunteers to carry out distance volunteer services. The
24 platform shall be linked to and placed prominently on the

1 website of the Corporation. The Corporation may enter
2 into a contract with a public entity to create the platform.

3 “(b) TRAINING RESOURCES AND INFORMATION.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall pro-
5 vide training resources, information, and guidance
6 for the volunteers on the platform.

7 “(2) INFORMATION.—The Corporation shall
8 provide information to regional offices of the Cor-
9 poration about how to get volunteers in the National
10 Senior Service Corps connected to the platform
11 through the gateway.

12 “(3) GUIDANCE.—The Corporation shall issue
13 guidance for the regional offices about how to trans-
14 fer the programs of the National Senior Service
15 Corps to the platform.

16 “(4) OUTREACH.—The Corporation shall pro-
17 vide outreach services to promote the platform in-
18 cluding outreach to institutions of higher education,
19 the Department of Veterans Affairs for mentorship
20 projects, and State and local governments for com-
21 munity engagement projects.”.

22 (c) OUTREACH AND PROMOTION CAMPAIGN.—Sec-
23 tion 193A(g) of such Act is amended by adding at the
24 end the following:

25 “(4) OUTREACH AND PROMOTION CAMPAIGN.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out public
2 awareness functions under this subsection, the
3 Corporation shall carry out an outreach and
4 promotion campaign to promote programs
5 under the national service laws with opportuni-
6 ties to respond to the COVID–19 public health
7 emergency, with the goal of maximizing aware-
8 ness of those programs among individuals ages
9 17 through 30.

10 “(B) REPORT.—The Corporation shall pre-
11 pare and submit to Congress a report that—

12 “(i) evaluates the outreach and pro-
13 motion campaign; and

14 “(ii) contains—

15 “(I) an analysis of the measures
16 and resources that would be required
17 for the Corporation effectively to no-
18 tify individuals who are ages 17
19 through 30 every 2 years of opportu-
20 nities under the national service laws
21 and steps to take to apply for those
22 opportunities;

23 “(II) a description of how the
24 Corporation would ensure those meas-
25 ures would enable the Corporation to

1 provide that notification to targeted
2 individuals from diverse geographic
3 areas, including individuals who are
4 ages 17 through 30 living in rural
5 areas and on Indian lands (as defined
6 in section 3 of the Native American
7 Business Development, Trade Pro-
8 motion, and Tourism Act of 2000 (25
9 U.S.C. 4302)); and

10 “(III) a recommendation regard-
11 ing whether the Corporation should
12 make the notifications described in
13 subclause (I).”.

14 (d) VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND.—Section
15 198P(d)(2) of the National and Community Service Act
16 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12653p(d)(2)) is amended by adding
17 at the end the following: “With respect to grants made
18 with funds appropriated as an additional amount under
19 section 501(a)(4)(F), the minimum grant amount shall be
20 not less than \$250,000.”.

21 **SEC. 8. ENSURING AGILITY.**

22 (a) WAIVER OF MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRE-
23 MENTS.—Section 189A of the National and Community
24 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12645d) is amended—

1 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “;
2 **MATCHING FUNDS DURING COVID-19 RE-**
3 **SPONSE AND RECOVERY PERIOD**” after “**COM-**
4 **MUNITIES**”; and

5 (2) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(c) COVID-19 RESPONSE.—Notwithstanding any
7 other provision of law, an entity that receives assistance
8 from the Corporation for any program under the national
9 service laws (including a State Commission and an entity
10 receiving subgrant funds) during the COVID-19 emer-
11 gency response and recovery period shall not be subject
12 to any requirements to provide matching funds for any
13 such program, and the Federal share of such assistance
14 for a recipient (including for a State Commission and a
15 subgrant recipient) may be 100 percent.”.

16 (b) PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 126 of the National
17 and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12576)
18 is amended by adding at the end the following:

19 “(d) DIRECT PLACEMENTS DURING THE COVID-19
20 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PERIOD.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section
22 178(h), during the COVID-19 emergency response
23 and recovery period, the Corporation shall imple-
24 ment a pilot program allowing State Commissions to
25 directly place a portion of individuals who have ap-

1 proved national service positions in State national
2 service programs in a manner to be determined by
3 the Corporation.

4 “(2) REPORT.—The Corporation shall prepare
5 and submit a report to Congress at the end of the
6 pilot program described in paragraph (1), containing
7 recommendations about whether and how to con-
8 tinue such a program of direct placements.”.

9 (c) NO SUMMER LIMITATION DURING COVID–19
10 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PERIOD.—Section 104 of the
11 Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4954)
12 is amended by adding at the end the following:

13 “(f)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
14 part, during the COVID–19 emergency response and re-
15 covery period, the Director may enroll full-time VISTA as-
16 sociates in a program, during any months of the year,
17 under such terms and conditions as the Director shall de-
18 termine to be appropriate. Such individuals shall be as-
19 signed to projects that address the needs of underserved
20 communities as a result of the COVID–19 public health
21 emergency.

22 “(2) In preparing reports relating to programs under
23 this Act, the Director shall report on participants, costs,
24 and accomplishments under the program under this sub-
25 section separately.

1 “(3) The limitation on funds appropriated for grants
2 and contracts, as contained in section 108, shall not apply
3 to the program under this subsection.”.

4 (d) VISTA LIMITATION APPLICABILITY.—Section
5 108 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42
6 U.S.C. 4958) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Of funds ap-
8 propriated” and inserting “Subject to subsection (c),
9 of funds appropriated”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(c) RULE FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOV-
12 ERY PERIOD.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), during the
13 COVID–19 emergency response and recovery period, in
14 order to address the needs of underserved communities re-
15 lated to the COVID–19 pandemic, of funds appropriated
16 for the purpose of this part under section 501, not more
17 than 75 percent may be obligated for the direct cost of
18 supporting volunteers in programs and projects (including
19 new programs and projects that begin after the date of
20 enactment of the Pandemic Response and Opportunity
21 Through National Service Act) carried out pursuant to
22 this part, and such funds may be obligated regardless of
23 when grant recipients commenced such programs and
24 projects.”.

1 (e) AUGMENTATION AND EXPANSION GRANTS.—
2 Title VI of the National and Community Service Act of
3 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12501) is amended by adding at the end
4 the following:

5 **“SEC. 603. COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RECOV-**
6 **ERY PERIOD AUGMENTATION AND EXPAN-**
7 **SION GRANTS.**

8 “During the COVID-19 emergency response and re-
9 covery period, the Corporation may award noncompetitive
10 augmentation and expansion grants, at such time and in
11 such manner as the Corporation determines appropriate.”.

12 (f) TERM OF SERVICE DURING COVID-19 EMER-
13 GENCY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PERIOD.—Section 146
14 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
15 U.S.C. 12602) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(g) TERM OF SERVICE DURING COVID-19 EMER-
18 GENCY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PERIOD.—Notwith-
19 standing the aggregate limit under subsection (c), during
20 the COVID-19 emergency response and recovery period,
21 a participant may be eligible for 2 terms of service and
22 may receive a national service educational award for each
23 of those 2 terms of service.”.

24 (g) INCREASE IN LIMITATION ON GRANT
25 AMOUNTS.—

1 (1) INCREASE IN LIMITATION ON TOTAL GRANT
2 AMOUNT.—Section 189(a) of the National and Com-
3 munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12645c(a))
4 is amended by striking “\$18,000 per full-time equiv-
5 alent position.” and inserting “for each full-time
6 equivalent position, an amount equal to the sum
7 of—

8 “(1) \$7,500; and
9 “(2) the living allowance established under sec-
10 tion 140(b).”.

11 (2) WAIVER AUTHORITY FOR INCREASED LIM-
12 TATION.—Section 189(e)(1) of the National and
13 Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
14 12645c(e)(1)) is amended by striking “\$19,500”
15 and inserting “an amount equal to the sum of
16 \$10,000 plus the living allowance established under
17 section 140(b)”.

18 (h) INCREASE IN LIMITATION ON TOTAL GRANT
19 AMOUNT FOR EDUCATIONAL AWARD ONLY PROGRAM.—
20 Section 129A(b) of the National and Community Service
21 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12581a(b)) is amended—

22 (1) by striking “\$800” and inserting “\$1,600”;
23 and

24 (2) by striking “\$1,000” and inserting
25 “\$2,000”.

1 (i) SEASONAL PROGRAM.—

2 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL CIVILIAN
3 COMMUNITY CORPS PROGRAM.—Section 152(b)(2) of
4 the National and Community Service Act of 1990
5 (42 U.S.C. 12612(b)(2)) is amended by striking
6 “summer” and inserting “seasonal”.

7 (2) SEASONAL NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM.—
8 Section 154 of the National and Community Service
9 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12614) is amended—

10 (A) in the section heading by striking
11 “**SUMMER**” and inserting “**SEASONAL**”;

12 (B) in subsection (a), by striking “sum-
13 mer” and inserting “seasonal”;

14 (C) in subsection (b), by striking “50 per-
15 cent of the participants in the summer” and in-
16 serting “35 percent of the participants in the
17 seasonal”; and

18 (D) by striking subsection (c) and insert-
19 ing the following:

20 “(c) SEASONAL PROGRAM.—Persons desiring to par-
21 ticipate in the seasonal national service program shall
22 enter into an agreement with the Director to participate
23 in the Corps for a period of not less than 3 months and
24 not more than 6 months, as specified by the Director.”.

1 (j) NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS.—Part D of
2 title II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42
3 U.S.C. 5021 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
4 the following:

5 **“SEC. 229. COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RECOV-**
6 **ERY PERIOD.**

7 “(a) AGE REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding section
8 201(a), during the COVID-19 emergency response and
9 recovery period, in order to address the critical needs of
10 local communities across the country as a result of the
11 COVID-19 pandemic, individuals who are 45 years of age
12 or older may be enrolled as volunteers to provide services
13 under part A.

14 “(b) INCOME REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding
15 section 211(d), during the COVID-19 emergency response
16 and recovery period, the terms ‘low-income person’ and
17 ‘person of low income’ under such section shall mean any
18 person whose income is not more than 400 percent of the
19 poverty line defined in section 673(2) of the Community
20 Services Block Grant (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)) and adjusted
21 by the Director in the manner described in such section.”.

22 (k) FLEXIBILITY.—

23 (1) POLICY OF MAXIMIZING FLEXIBILITY.—It is
24 the sense of the Senate that, in carrying out activi-
25 ties under this Act, the Corporation for National

1 and Community Service should, consistent with the
2 Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C.
3 4950 et seq.) and the National and Community
4 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12501), maximize
5 the flexibility of State Commissions (as defined in
6 section 101 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12511)) to
7 award and amend grants, consistent with the pur-
8 poses of this Act, and to rapidly enroll new individ-
9 uals to serve in programs under th national service
10 laws.

11 (2) REPORT ON ACTIVITIES TO MAXIMIZE
12 FLEXIBILITY.—Not later than 120 days after the
13 date of enactment of this Act, and in consultation
14 with such State Commissions, the Chief Executive
15 Officer of the Corporation for National and Commu-
16 nity Service shall prepare and submit to the Com-
17 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
18 of the Senate and the Committee on Education and
19 Labor of the House of Representatives a report con-
20 taining recommendations on what additional actions
21 to maximize flexibility for such State Commissions
22 would strengthen the work of State Commissions
23 and their grantees.

24 (1) FURTHER EXPEDITING RAPID ENROLLMENT.—
25 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this

1 Act, the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for
2 National and Community Service shall review the Cor-
3 poration's capacity and shall prepare and submit a report
4 to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
5 sions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and
6 Labor of the House of Representatives containing infor-
7 mation about whether a new unit within the Corporation
8 for National and Community Service should be established
9 to provide additional assistance or manage the enrollment
10 process to ensure compliance with sections 189D and 199I
11 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
12 U.S.C. 12645g; 12655i) for incoming participants in na-
13 tional service programs, particularly new national service
14 programs receiving program assistance for the first time.

15 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 (a) AMERICORPS STATE AND NATIONAL; EDU-
17 CATIONAL AWARDS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 501(a)(2) of the Na-
19 tional and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
20 U.S.C. 12681(a)(2)) is amended by striking “fiscal
21 years 2010 through 2014” and all that follows and
22 inserting “fiscal year 2020, in addition to any
23 amount appropriated before the date of enactment of
24 the Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through
25 National Service Act, additional amounts of—

1 “(A) \$14,000,000,000, to provide financial
2 assistance under subtitle C of title I; and

3 “(B) \$7,525,000,000, to provide national
4 service educational awards under subtitle D of
5 title I for the total of the number of partici-
6 pants described in section 121(f)(1) for fiscal
7 years 2020 through 2023.”.

8 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
9 121(f)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12571(f)(1)) of
10 such Act is amended by striking subparagraphs (A),
11 (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

12 “(A) increase the number of the approved
13 positions to 750,000 over the period of fiscal
14 years 2021 through 2023; and

15 “(B) ensure that the increase described in
16 subparagraph (A) is achieved through an appro-
17 priate balance of full- and part-time service po-
18 sitions;”.

19 (b) AMERICORPS NCCC.—Section 501(a)(3)(A) of
20 such Act (42 U.S.C. 12681(a)(3)(A)) is amended by strik-
21 ing “such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal
22 years 2010 through 2014.” and inserting “in addition to
23 any amount appropriated before the date of enactment of
24 the Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through Na-

1 tional Service Act, an additional amount of
2 \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.”.

3 (c) VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND.—Section
4 501(a)(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12681(a)(4)) is amend-
5 ed—

6 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “for each
7 of fiscal years 2010 through 2014” and inserting
8 “for fiscal year 2020”; and

9 (2) in subparagraph (F), by striking “section
10 198P—” and all that follows and inserting “in addi-
11 tion to any amount appropriated before the date of
12 enactment of the Pandemic Response and Oppor-
13 tunity Through National Service Act, an additional
14 amount of \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.”.

15 (d) ADMINISTRATION BY THE CORPORATION AND
16 STATE COMMISSIONS.—Section 501(a)(5) of such Act (42
17 U.S.C. 12681(a)(5)) is amended—

18 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “such
19 sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
20 2010 through 2014.” and inserting “in addition to
21 any amount appropriated before the date of enact-
22 ment of the Pandemic Response and Opportunity
23 Through National Service Act, an additional amount
24 of \$2,769,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.”;

1 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “for a fis-
2 cal year, a portion” and inserting “a portion (from
3 the amounts appropriated under subparagraph (A)
4 before the date of enactment of the Pandemic Re-
5 sponse and Opportunity Through National Service
6 Act, and an additional portion of \$1,000,000,000,”;
7 and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
9 paragraph:

10 “(C) OUTREACH AND PROMOTION CAM-
11 PAIGN FOR COVID–19 RESPONSE OPPORTUNI-
12 TIES.—Of the amounts appropriated under sub-
13 paragraph (A), \$10,000,000 shall be made
14 available to carry out a outreach and promotion
15 campaign under section 193A(g)(4).”.

16 (e) AMERICORPS VISTA.—Section 501 of the Do-
17 mestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5081)
18 is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking
20 “\$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such sums
21 as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years
22 2011 through 2014.” and inserting “, in addition to
23 any amount appropriated before the date of enact-
24 ment of the Pandemic Response and Opportunity

1 Through National Service Act, an additional amount
2 of \$1,400,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.”; and

3 (2) in subsection (d), by striking the period and
4 inserting “, except that any additional amount ap-
5 propriated under an amendment made by the Pan-
6 demic Response and Opportunity Through National
7 Service Act shall remain available for obligation
8 through fiscal year 2023.”.

9 (f) NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS.—Section
10 502 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5082) is amended by adding
11 at the end the following:

12 “(e) ONLINE SERVICE RESOURCES.—There are au-
13 thorized to be appropriated, to develop online service re-
14 sources to carry out parts A, B, C, and E of title II,
15 \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.”.