

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6980

To extend the period in which Governors of States may order members of the National Guard to active duty in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19), and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2020

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire (for herself, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WELCH, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. O’HALLERAN, Mr. CISNEROS, and Ms. CRAIG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To extend the period in which Governors of States may order members of the National Guard to active duty in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19), 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Guard
3 COVID–19 Response Stability Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PERIOD IN WHICH GOVERNORS OF**
5 **STATES MAY ORDER MEMBERS OF THE NA-**
6 **TIONAL GUARD TO ACTIVE DUTY IN CONNec-**
7 **TION WITH CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019**
8 **(COVID–19).**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The period in which the Governor
10 of a State may order members of the National Guard to
11 active duty under section 502(f) of title 32, United States
12 Code, for duty in connection with the Coronavirus Disease
13 2019 (COVID–19) public health emergency in accordance
14 with, and in a manner covered by, the Memoranda on Pro-
15 viding Federal Support for Governors’ Use of the National
16 Guard to Respond to COVID–19 shall extend through the
17 date that is 30 days after the termination of that public
18 health emergency.

19 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) The term “Coronavirus Disease 2019
21 (COVID–19) public health emergency” means the
22 public health emergency under section 319 of the
23 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) that
24 was declared on January 31, 2020, and renewed on
25 April 21, 2020, in connection with the Coronavirus
26 Disease 2019 (COVID–19).

1 (2) The term “Memoranda on Providing Fed-
2 eral Support for Governors’ Use of the National
3 Guard to Respond to COVID–19” means the memo-
4 randa of the President on the provision of Federal
5 support for Governors’ use of the National Guard to
6 respond to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–
7 19), including such memoranda issued on March 22,
8 March 28, March 30, April 2, April 7, April 13,
9 April 20, April 28, and May 8, 2020, and any suc-
10 cessor memorandum.

11 (3) The term “Governor of a State” means the
12 following:

13 (A) The Governor of a State or the Com-
14 monwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, or the Virgin
15 Islands.

16 (B) The commanding general of the Dis-
17 trict of Columbia National Guard.

○