



U.S. HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
– CHAIRWOMAN MAXINE WATERS –
THE HEROES ACT
PROTECTS FIRST RESPONDERS AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS

- The Defense Production Act (DPA) provides authority to **prioritize federal procurement** contracts over other customers, to **allocate scarce goods** and send them where they are needed, and to provide assistance to companies to help them **boost production of critically needed supplies**.
- Despite an inadequate stockpile and growing need for critical medical supplies, particularly personal protective equipment (PPE), diagnostic tests and ventilators, the President inappropriately delayed identifying health and medical needs, forecasting production bottlenecks and using the DPA to bring order to a chaotic supply system and boost production of vitally needed material.

The Heroes Act improves the DPA and holds Trump accountable by:

- **Directly applying DPA authorities to diagnostic tests, Personal Protective Equipment, medicines, and other critical medical equipment and supplies.**
- **Providing for an exemption of State and local purchases of medical equipment from DPA prioritization and allocation authorities** and requiring notification where State and local purchases are delayed.
- **Focusing DPA authorities on manufacturers' supply chains.**
- **Centralizing outreach to companies to better coordinate production of critical medical materials.**
- **Requiring short- and medium-term needs assessments and specific and concrete planning to meet those needs.**
- **Strengthening oversight** by requiring more reporting to Congress and directing the GAO to review the Administration's assessments and plans.

The Heroes Act's DPA provisions are supported by the AFL-CIO and AFSCME

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