To direct the President to appoint a Medical Supplies Response Coordinator to coordinate the efforts of the Federal Government regarding the supply and distribution of certain supplies and equipment relating to COVID–19.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SCHNEIDER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on ______________________

A BILL

To direct the President to appoint a Medical Supplies Response Coordinator to coordinate the efforts of the Federal Government regarding the supply and distribution of certain supplies and equipment relating to COVID–19.

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. MEDICAL SUPPLIES RESPONSE COORDINATOR.
4 (a) In General.—The President shall appoint a
5 Medical Supplies Response Coordinator to coordinate the
6 efforts of the Federal Government regarding the supply
and distribution of critical medical supplies and equipment related to detecting, diagnosing, preventing, and treating COVID–19, including personal protective equipment, medical devices, drugs, and vaccines.

(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—To qualify to be appointed as the Medical Supplies Response Coordinator, an individual shall be a senior government official with—

(1) health care training, including training related to infectious diseases or hazardous exposures; and

(2) a familiarity with medical supply chain logistics.

(e) ACTIVITIES.—The Medical Supplies Response Coordinator shall—

(1) consult with State, local, territorial, and Tribal officials to ensure that health care facilities and health care workers have sufficient personal protective equipment and other medical supplies;

(2) evaluate ongoing needs of States, localities, territories, Tribes, health care facilities, and health care workers to determine the need for critical medical supplies and equipment;

(3) serve as a point of contact for industry for procurement and distribution of critical medical supplies and equipment, including personal protective
equipment, medical devices, testing supplies, drugs, and vaccines;

(4) procure and distribute critical medical supplies and equipment, including personal protective equipment, medical devices, testing supplies, drugs, and vaccines;

(5)(A) establish and maintain an up-to-date national database of hospital capacity, including beds, ventilators, and supplies, including personal protective equipment, medical devices, drugs, and vaccines; and

(B) provide weekly reports to the Congress on gaps in such capacity and progress made toward closing the gaps;

(6) require, as necessary, industry reporting on production and distribution of personal protective equipment, medical devices, testing supplies, drugs, and vaccines and assess financial penalties as may be specified by the Medical Supplies Response Coordinator for failure to comply with such requirements for reporting on production and distribution;

(7) consult with the Secretary and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as applicable, to ensure sufficient production lev-
els under the Defense Production Act (50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.); and

(8) monitor the prices of critical medical supplies and equipment, including personal protective equipment and medical devices, drugs, and vaccines related to detecting, diagnosing, preventing, and treating COVID–19 and report any suspected price gouging of such materials to the Federal Trade Commission and appropriate law enforcement officials.