

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6315

To provide administrative support and flexibility to the Corporation for National and Community Service to respond to the COVID–19 national emergency as declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) on March 13, 2020, with respect to the coronavirus.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 23, 2020

Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. GUTHRIE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To provide administrative support and flexibility to the Corporation for National and Community Service to respond to the COVID–19 national emergency as declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) on March 13, 2020, with respect to the coronavirus.

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 “COVID–19 National  
5       Service Response Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COVID-19 NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FOR**  
2 **THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND**  
3 **COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

4 (a) ACCRUAL OF SERVICE HOURS.—

5 (1) ACCRUAL THROUGH OTHER SERVICE  
6 HOURS.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any  
8 other provision of the Domestic Volunteer Serv-  
9 ice Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4950 et seq.) or the  
10 National and Community Service Act of 1990  
11 (42 U.S.C. 12501 et seq.), the Corporation for  
12 National and Community Service shall allow an  
13 individual described in subparagraph (B) to ac-  
14 crue other service hours that will count toward  
15 the number of hours needed for the individual's  
16 education award.

17 (B) AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS.—Subpara-  
18 graph (A) shall apply to any individual serving  
19 in a position eligible for an educational award  
20 under subtitle D of title I of the National and  
21 Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
22 12601 et seq.)—

23 (i) who is performing limited service  
24 due to COVID-19; or

25 (ii) whose position has been suspended  
26 or placed on hold due to COVID-19.

1           (2) PROVISIONS IN CASE OF EARLY EXIT.—In  
2           any case where an individual serving in a position el-  
3           igible for an educational award under subtitle D of  
4           title I of the National and Community Service Act  
5           of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.) was required to  
6           exit the position early at the direction of the Cor-  
7           poration for National and Community Service, the  
8           Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for Na-  
9           tional and Community Service may—

10                   (A) deem such individual as having met  
11                   the requirements of the position; and

12                   (B) award the individual the full value of  
13                   the educational award under such subtitle for  
14                   which the individual would otherwise have been  
15                   eligible.

16           (b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any  
17           other provision of law, all funds made available to the Cor-  
18           poration for National and Community Service under any  
19           Act, including the amounts appropriated to the Corpora-  
20           tion under the headings “OPERATING EXPENSES”,  
21           “SALARIES AND EXPENSES”, and “OFFICE OF  
22           THE INSPECTOR GENERAL” under the heading  
23           “Corporation for National and Community Service” under  
24           title IV of Division A of the Further Consolidated Appro-

1 priations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–94), shall remain  
2 available for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021.

3 (c) NO REQUIRED RETURN OF GRANT FUNDS.—  
4 Notwithstanding section 129(l)(3)(A)(i) of the National  
5 and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
6 12581(l)(3)(A)(i)), the Chief Executive Officer of the Cor-  
7 poration for National and Community Service may permit  
8 fixed-amount grant recipients under such section 129(l)  
9 to maintain a pro rata amount of grant funds, at the dis-  
10 cretion of the Corporation for National and Community  
11 Service, for participants who exited, were suspended, or  
12 are serving in a limited capacity due to COVID–19, to  
13 enable the grant recipients to maintain operations and to  
14 accept participants.

15 (d) EXTENSION OF TERMS AND AGE LIMITS.—Not-  
16 withstanding any other provision of law, the Corporation  
17 for National and Community Service may extend the term  
18 of service (for a period not to exceed the 1-year period  
19 immediately following the end of the national emergency)  
20 or waive any upper age limit (except in no case shall the  
21 maximum age exceed 26 years of age) for national service  
22 programs carried out by the National Civilian Community  
23 Corps under subtitle E of title I of the National and Com-  
24 munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12611 et seq.),

1 and the participants in such programs, for the purposes  
2 of—

3           (1) addressing disruptions due to COVID–19;

4           and

5           (2) minimizing the difficulty in returning to full

6           operation due to COVID–19 on such programs and

7           participants.

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