THE PANDEMIC PRODUCTION ACT

Introduced by Congresswoman Lori Trahan

America would never rely on anyone else to protect us in a war, so why are we doing it now?

The Pandemic Production Act (PPA) will put an end to America's dependence on a foreign supply of medical equipment and supplies necessary to respond to a global pandemic like the coronavirus by reinvigorating America's industrial base and getting people back to work in good–paying jobs.

THE PROBLEM:

- The United States does not have a sufficient domestic supply chain for medical equipment needed to protect frontline health care and essential workers.
- Instead, we have become dependent on a foreign supply of personal protective equipment and medical technology that has hindered our response to COVID-19.
- At the same time, the politicization of this national crisis led to the delayed and insufficient implementation of the Defense Production Act leaving states to survive on their own and compete to secure supplies that keep their residents safe.

THE SOLUTION:

- PPA will incentivize American manufacturers with federal funding to maintain domestic production capacity for medical equipment necessary to respond to an infectious disease outbreak and safeguard our supply chains.
- This will spur the hiring of workers in the manufacturing industry which has the highest economic multiplier of any major sector.
- PPA will also remove politics from the equipment manufacturing process and require increased oversight over the Executive Branch in response to public health crises.

HOW THIS BILL WORKS:

- Similar to how the federal government incentivizes the production of equipment necessary to defend our national security, PPA will fund public-private partnerships to help American manufacturers ramp up their capacity to make personal protective equipment, medical devices, and vaccines.
- Greater authority will be given to public health experts to ensure that domestic production under the PPA is being ramped up at the appropriate time and free from political influence.
- The Secretary of Health and Human Services will also be required to provide weekly reports during a national emergency providing full transparency and ensuring that Congress is fully aware of the use or non–use of these resources.