# **Biden Transition: What Employers Should Expect**

January 26, 2021



# **Speakers**



Bret Jackson MODERATOR

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# **Biden COVID-19 Response**

### **Relevant Executive Orders to Date:**

White House COVID-19 Organization: Formally establishes the COVID-19 coordinator position and office within the White House (filled by Jeff Zientz).

**Reopening schools and businesses** – Data collection on school reopening and the spread of COVID. Directs OSHA to set clear guidance to employers on safe workplace practices and enforcement.

**Testing** – Mandates new guidance to businesses, schools, and other congregate settings on how to best use widespread testing. New pandemic testing board to discover new kinds of effective and rapid tests and scale them up quickly.

**Supply chain** – Invokes Defense Production Act to compel companies to produce PPE, testing, and vaccines.

**Federal Mask Mandate:** Mandates masks be worn in all federal facilities. Establishes a safe federal workforce taskforce and the development of a plan for Vaccine distribution to federal employees.

**Travel Mandates:** Requires masks on public transportation, including trains, buses and aircraft. Additionally, requires travelers entering the United States to present a negative Covid-19 test and quarantine upon arrival.

**Equity** – establishes a "COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force."

**State and local support** – provides more funding to local and state officials, creating more vaccination sites (under FEMA) and launching a national public education campaign.

# **Biden COVID-19 Response**

## Legislative Request to Congress - \$1.9 Trillion:

Increase in Vaccine Capacity – \$20 billion

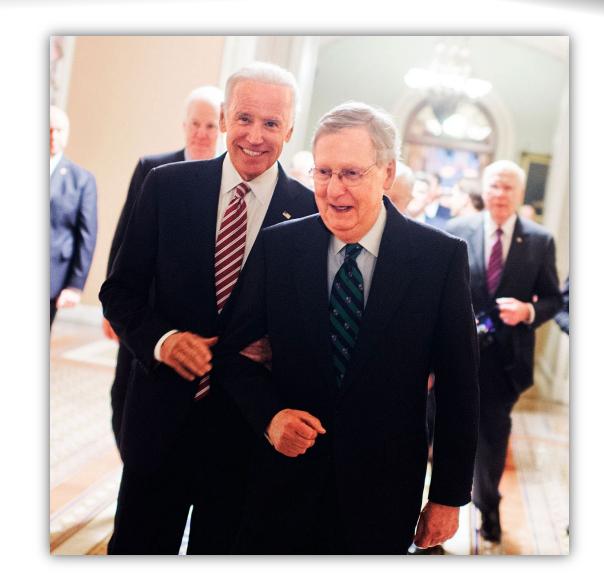
Increase in Testing Capacity – \$50 billion

**Production and Distribution of PPE** – \$40 billion

**Federal subsidies for COBRA coverage** – Subsidies would remain available through September 2021.

**Funding for K-12 Education** – \$130 billion in funding for K-12 schools to reopen safely.

**Expansion and extension of emergency paid sick leave requirements** – Expand paid leave requirements to employers of **all sizes**. Employers with fewer than 500 workers will receive refundable tax credit to fully offset the cost of leave.



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# **Biden Healthcare plan**

## Biden campaigned on the following:

**Public option:** Biden would give individuals or small business the chance to buy a medicare like insurance product

Increase the value of tax credits and extend coverage to more working families: Biden would eliminate the 400% income cap and lower the income limit to 8.5%. He would also base the tax credits on the gold plans rather than less generous silver plans

**Expand medicaid expansion**: Those qualified individuals in states that did not expand Medicaid would be given the public option, premium free

Tackle market concentration across the healthcare system

Allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices: Biden plans to repeal the prohibition on Medicare bargaining with Drug Manufacturers

**Limit launch prices for drugs with no competition:** HHS would create an independent review committee that would assess the drug's value

Limit drug price increase to inflation

Allow consumers to buy drugs from other countries

Remove the tax credit for drug advertising

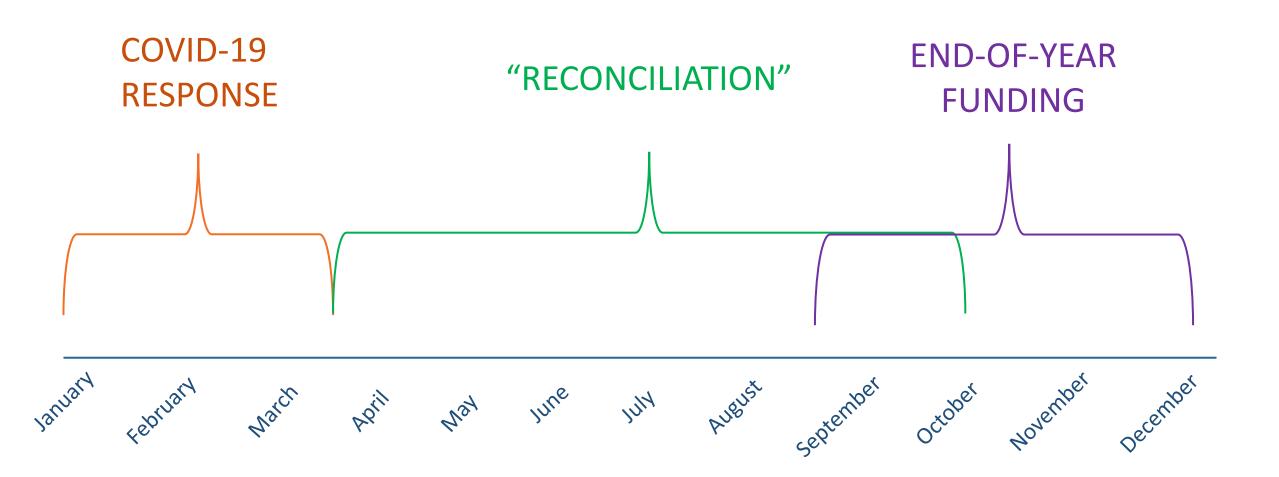
Accelerate the development of safe generics

**Doubling investment in community health centers** 

Enforcing mental health parity laws and increasing funding for mental health services

# **2021 Legislative Vehicles**





# **National Alliance Policy Priorities**





- Managing, mitigating, and reversing impact of the pandemic
- Accelerating payment reform
- Tackling hospital pricing inequities
- Making prescription drugs more affordable for purchasers and patients
- Protecting and improving primary care
- Addressing the mental health crisis in this country
- Creating a totally transparent healthcare system on cost and quality

# **Biden plan vs National Alliance priorities**

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**Doubling investment in community health centers** 

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## **Questions**?



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## **Upcoming Events**

#### JANUARY

• Mental Health Index, January 29, noon-12:30 p.m. (EST) REGISTER

#### **FEBRUARY**

- Fiduciary Check In: The Sutter Health Decision, February 18, 1 p.m.-1:30 p.m. (EST) REGISTER
- Mental Health Index, February 19, noon-12:30 p.m. (EST) REGISTER
- Cannabis: Adhering to Evidence- and Value-based Standards, February 23, 1 p.m.-2 p.m. (EST).
  Registration opens next week. READ THE ACTION BRIEF <u>HERE</u>!

### MARCH

- Fiduciary Check In, March 18, 1 p.m.-1:30 p.m. (EST) <u>REGISTER</u>
- Mental Health Index, March 19, noon-12:30 p.m. (EST) REGISTER

