

What You Need To Know | President Trump Is Taking Action To Enable Medical Supplies To Get To Where They Are Needed Most

President Trump is taking action to better enable the proper distribution of America's health and medical resources.

President Donald J. Trump wants to ensure that our Nation is equipped with the health and medical supplies necessary to respond to the coronavirus.

- President Trump is issuing an Executive Order invoking the Defense Production Act so that authorities under that Act can be used, if necessary.
- Under the Defense Production Act, the President has the authority to determine that certain supplies are essential for the national defense during challenges like this.
- The Department of Health and Human Services currently has authority to work with States and localities and the private sector to facilitate distribution of supplies where they are needed most. The private sector has stepped up to make sure that we do everything possible to provide supplies to our healthcare workers and first responders. If cooperation with the private sector fails to address shortages, this order will ensure that the health and medical resources needed to respond to the spread of coronavirus are properly distributed to our healthcare system.

The President's action allows the Administration, if it becomes necessary, to order the distribution of health and medical supplies to where they are most needed.

- The Department of Health and Human Services has already begun working with States and localities to determine nationwide priorities for allocating health and medical supplies and seeking private sector collaboration.
- If necessary, the Administration will be able to direct the distribution of essential materials so that scarce resources are delivered where they are needed most.