

U.S. Representative
Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Proudly Serving Florida's 26th District



Mobile Options for Testing In Our Neighborhoods (MOTION) Act

For too many communities, access to COVID-19 testing remains out of reach. The MOTION Act (H.R. 8017) would establish a mobile testing network to conduct diagnostic testing for COVID-19 in underserved neighborhoods, especially those lacking medical resources or transportation options to reach testing sites.

Endorsing Organizations: National Association of Community Health Centers, Association of American Medical Colleges, National Rural Health Association

Co-Lead: House Majority Whip James E. Clyburn – Cosponsors: Reps. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Theodore Deutch, Darren Soto, Kathy Castor, Mikie Sherrill, Brian Higgins, TJ Cox, Stephen Lynch, Veronica Escobar, Juan Vargas, Sylvia Garcia

The Problem

The key to slowing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic is widespread, accessible testing. Unfortunately, for too many people in underserved communities, traditional testing sites are out of reach. Those in medically underserved or health professional shortage areas lack access to traditional testing locations. And in many areas that have established drive-thru and walk-up locations, public transportation has either been shut down or discouraged due to the pandemic. And though some areas have mobile options for testing, too often these locations remain static in one location, not directly serving multiple communities in the area.

The Solution

There is an urgent need for diagnostic testing that is conducted in these medically underserved or transportation-disadvantaged areas. Local organizations must be given the resources needed to purchase and equip truly mobile testing vehicles, which would serve multiple communities.

The MOTION Act

The MOTION Act establishes a grant program within the CDC to establish, improve, and maintain mobile testing programs. Funding would go to local organizations, who would utilize this funding to purchase and equip vehicles to go directly into neighborhoods to conduct COVID-19 diagnostic testing. This legislation would help reach those communities that otherwise have difficulty accessing traditional testing locations, including medical centers, drive-thru sites, and walk up facilities

Specifically, the legislation:

- Authorizes \$400 million to the CDC for FY20.
- Distributes grants to local health departments, community health centers, university medical systems, or non-profits to conduct mobile testing.
- Prioritizes entities in medically underserved or transportation-disadvantaged areas.
- Conduct mobile testing, but also distribute eventual FDA-approved vaccines and therapeutics.