To provide for the expedited procurement of equipment needed to combat COVID-19 under the Defense Production Act of 1950.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. BALDWIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ___________________

A BILL

To provide for the expedited procurement of equipment needed to combat COVID-19 under the Defense Production Act of 1950.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXPEDITED PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO COMBAT COVID-19.

(a) Report Required.—Not later than 7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the National Response Coordination Center of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, in coordination with the Defense Logistics Agency and in consultation with the Department
of Health and Human Services, shall submit to Congress
and the President a report that includes—

(1) an assessment of the need across the United
States for equipment necessary to prevent, identify,
and mitigate cases of coronavirus disease 2019
(commonly known as “COVID-19”), including per-
sonal protective equipment and ventilators;

(2) an identification of the industry sectors and
manufacturers most ready to fulfill purchase orders
for such equipment; and

(3) an identification of government and pri-
vately owned stockpiles of equipment not included in
the Strategic National Stockpile that could be re-
paired or refurbished.

(b) PURCHASE ORDERS.—

(1) IMMEDIATE PURCHASES.—Not later than
24 hours after the enactment of this Act, the Presi-
dent shall issue a “DX” rated priority purchase
order pursuant to Department of Defense Directive
4400.1 to procure 300,000,000 N95 respirators and
facemasks under authorities provided by the Defense
Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.).

(2) ADDITIONAL PURCHASES.—Not later than 7
days after receiving the report required by sub-
section (a), the President shall issue “DX” rated
priority purchase orders pursuant to Department of Defense Directive 4400.1 to procure equipment identified under paragraph (1) of that subsection under authorities provided by the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.).

(c) Waiver of Certain Requirements.—The requirements of sections 301(d)(1)(A), 302(d)(1), and subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 303(a)(6) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4531(d)(1)(A), 4532(d)(1), and 4533(a)(6)) are waived for purposes of this section.

(d) Funding.—Amounts available in the Defense Production Act Fund under section 304 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4534) shall be available for purchases made under this section.