As Congress debates additional coronavirus response measures, Senator Rick Scott is looking at every option to help those individuals and small businesses that are suffering.

Senator Scott also fought against any proposal that would use Florida taxpayer money intended for coronavirus response to backfill states’ lost revenue or give poorly-run states, like New York, a blank check to pay for their years of fiscal mismanagement.

Also this week, Senator Scott worked with his colleagues to pass the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to provide our brave men and women in uniform the resources they need to protect our nation and our allies.

The FY 2021 NDAA included:

- $740.5 billion in defense spending;
• Senator Scott’s **Secure U.S. Bases Act** to reform and improve foreign military student training programs following the terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola on December 6th, 2019; and

• Senator Scott’s amendment to help keep oil drilling off Florida’s coasts by recognizing the importance of the Gulf Test Range, which is currently used for vital military testing and training, and is critical to our national security.

See more of what Senator Scott has been up to this week below.

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**Sen. Rick Scott Blasts IOC’s Shameful Disregard for Human Rights in China**

Senator Rick Scott released the below statement following a speech by International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach, who claimed that “boycotts and discrimination because of political background or nationality are once again a real danger” and warned about what he called “the growing misuse of sport for political purposes.” For nearly a year, Senator Scott has been urging the Committee to reconsider its decision to host the 2022 Winter Olympics in Communist China as General Secretary Xi Jinping commits genocide against the Uyghurs in Xinjiang and restricts the human rights of Hong Kongers.

**Senator Rick Scott** said, “Uyghur prisoners in Communist China are being rounded up, blindfolded, shaved and loaded onto trains to be taken to concentration camps, and all IOC President Bach is concerned about is his claim that people are using sports for political purposes. This is nonsense and reveals a shameful disregard for the victims of General Secretary Xi and the Chinese Communist Party’s crimes.

"Beijing is committing genocide against the Uyghurs simply because of their religious beliefs and is cracking down on the human rights of Hong Kongers. The world must unite against this horrific injustice. This isn’t about politics or a boycott. It’s about basic human rights. The IOC should find a new home for the 2022 Olympic Games, and if Bach continues to refuse to acknowledge Communist China’s human rights abuses, then the IOC should find a president who does." Read more **HERE**.

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**Sen. Rick Scott: We Must Do More to Protect American Vaccine Efforts from Communist China**

Senator Rick Scott released the below statement following the Justice Department’s indictment of two Chinese hackers for stealing hundreds of millions of dollars of trade secrets from companies across the world and more recently targeting firms developing a vaccine for the coronavirus.

In May, Senator Scott led his colleagues in introducing the **COVID-19 Vaccine Protection Act** to prevent Communist China from stealing or sabotaging American COVID-19 vaccine research. The bill requires a thorough national security evaluation and clearance by the Department of Homeland
visa holders taking part in activities related to COVID-19 vaccine research.

Senator Rick Scott said, “I am glad the Justice Department is taking action to protect American research from Communist China. For months, I’ve been warning about Communist China’s attempts to steal or sabotage American vaccine efforts, and today’s announcement demonstrates the reality of this threat. Communist China’s lies and misinformation led to the spread of the coronavirus, and now they want to inhibit our recovery. We can’t allow that, which is why I introduced the COVID-19 Vaccine Protection Act. I’m disappointed Senate Democrats blocked this bill from passing last month, even as American lives depend on the rapid development of this vaccine. We all need to open our eyes to the threat of this Communist nation that refuses to be an honest partner.” Read more HERE.

Sen. Rick Scott: Congress Needs to Say “No” to Bailouts for Poorly-Managed States

Senator Rick Scott released the below statement as Congress considers additional coronavirus relief measures.

Senator Rick Scott said, “For months, I have been fighting to make sure Congress doesn’t bail out states for their poor fiscal decisions. I have worked aggressively to stop bills that would backfill states’ lost revenue or give poorly-run, liberal states like New York and Illinois a blank check to pay for their years of fiscal mismanagement. Every time a Senator tried to allow states to use taxpayer funds specifically meant to respond to coronavirus for other purposes, I personally fought and blocked it from seeing the light of day. I’m very disappointed that the Republican proposal outlined today includes provisions that allow states to use coronavirus-related funding for unrelated purposes.

“I will continue to fight any and all proposals that will allow poorly-run states to use money set aside for coronavirus response to backfill their poorly-managed budgets.

“I am also concerned that it appears that this proposal may spend upwards of $1 trillion when we don’t even understand how much is still unspent from the previous coronavirus response packages that Congress passed earlier this year. There’s no such thing as free money - American families will have to pay this money back in the future. Congress needs to understand that if we don’t get our fiscal house in order, we will simply create another crisis down the road. Our nation is trillions of dollars in debt, and while it is imperative that we respond to the devastation of this pandemic, it is short-sighted to have a conversation on spending even more money when we know so much of the funding we already allocated hasn’t been touched.” Read more HERE.

Senators Scott and Johnson to Colleagues: We Need More Info on Coronavirus Relief Spending Before Next Package

Senators Rick Scott and Ron Johnson asked their Senate colleagues to urge their respective states to immediately provide information about how they have allocated billions of dollars received from the CARES Act and other federal coronavirus response measures. This information is critical as Congress considers additional relief measures. The Senators also wrote a letter to the
including the Senators’ letters, HERE.

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**Sen. Rick Scott Applauds Committee Passage of Bill with Senator Hawley to Ban TikTok on Government Devices**

Senator Rick Scott released the below statement applauding the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee’s unanimous passage of his and Senator Josh Hawley’s bill to ban all federal employees from using TikTok on government devices. Several government agencies have already banned TikTok on federal government devices due to cybersecurity concerns and possible spying by the Communist Chinese government. The Administration also recently announced it is considering a ban on Chinese social media apps, including TikTok following reports the app shared data with the Communist Chinese government.

**Senator Rick Scott** said, “Companies influenced and controlled by the Chinese government, like TikTok, must adhere to the Communist government’s demands to spy, steal user data and censor any content the government wishes. There is absolutely no reason any American should subject themselves to this risk, especially on government devices, which poses a risk to U.S. networks and a threat to national security. I’m proud to work with Senator Hawley and my colleagues on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee to put an end to it, and I look forward to the full Senate quickly passing this important bill.” Read more HERE.

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**Sen. Rick Scott Asks Secretary Esper for Plan to Hold Communist China Accountable Ahead of Any Visit**

Senator Rick Scott wrote a letter to Secretary of Defense Mark Esper following reports that the Secretary is considering visiting Communist China. In the letter, Senator Scott requested that the Secretary outline his plan to hold Communist China accountable for its blatant human rights abuses and its role in the spread of the coronavirus. Read more, including the letter, HERE.

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**Sen. Rick Scott Applauds Passage of NDAA, Including His Secure U.S. Bases Act**

Senator Rick Scott released the following statement applauding the Senate’s passage of the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

The FY2021 NDAA includes:

- $740.5 billion in defense spending;
- A 3% pay raise for our troops;
- Senator Scott’s Secure U.S. Bases Act to reform and improve foreign military student training programs following the terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola on December 6th, 2019; and
importance of the Gulf Test Range, which is currently used for vital military testing and training, and is critical to our national security.

**Senator Rick Scott** said, “This year’s National Defense Authorization Act is a great win for our national security. As threats around the world continue to grow – including the threat from Communist China – it’s imperative we are providing our brave men and women in uniform the resources they need to protect our nation and our allies. I’m proud my **Secure U.S. Bases Act** was included in the NDAA, which will make sure foreign military students training at U.S. bases are thoroughly vetted and monitored and that our troops are protected. This is a huge step to ensuring the safety of our military members and their families so we never have to experience a tragedy like NAS Pensacola again.” Read more [HERE](#).

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**Sen. Rick Scott Applauds President Trump’s Efforts to Lower Prescription Drug Costs**

Senator Rick Scott released the below statement following President Trump’s announcement of a series of executive orders aimed at lowering drug prices for American families.

**Senator Rick Scott** said, “Families across the country are struggling to afford life-saving medication. I’ve spoken to President Trump and the Administration at length about this, and I’m glad the President is focused on taking action to lower health care costs for Americans. Drug companies should not charge American consumers more for prescription drugs than they charge consumers in other industrialized nations, like Great Britain, Canada or Germany. That’s what my America First Drug Pricing Plan would change, and I’m glad to see the President leading this charge. It’s common sense.

"It’s time for Congress to get off the sidelines and pass real solutions to drive down the cost of health care, so all families can get the care they so desperately need. Soaring prescription drug costs are hurting Americans, and it is incumbent upon my colleagues in Washington to finally stand up and fight for what is right." Read more [HERE](#).

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**IN THE NEWS**

*Fox News:* [Scott touts Hawley bill to ban TikTok on government devices as it heads to Senate floor](#)

*Reuters:* [TikTok app would be banned on U.S. government devices under Senate bill](#)

*Fox Business:* [Sen. Rick Scott: States should give parents choice on kids returning to school](#)
The 2020 Hurricane Season is underway, and Senator Rick Scott is urging Floridians to take action and prepare NOW. Although preparing for a storm might look a little different amid the coronavirus, we cannot let our guards down, and must do everything we can to
partnership with The Weather Channel, [HERE](#).

Read more on how to protect yourself and others from the Coronavirus while preparing for hurricane season from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) [HERE](#), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [HERE](#), or by visiting [www.RickScott.senate.gov/Hurricanes](http://www.RickScott.senate.gov/Hurricanes).

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Senator Rick Scott is committed to keeping Florida families safe and healthy. Following the passage of the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act*, Senator Rick Scott released a [CARES Act Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document](#) with information on how Floridians can get help amid the coronavirus crisis and details about the support available to small businesses, individuals and non-profits.

See the FAQ document [HERE](#) or more resources and information available to Floridians by visiting [www.RickScott.senate.gov](http://www.RickScott.senate.gov).
Ann & I send our thoughts and prayers to the loved ones of John Lewis.

He left an indelible mark on our country and spent his entire life giving a voice to the voiceless. We are forever grateful for his service to our country and our world.
No one should be tricked into thinking @tiktok_us is harmless. The Chinese government’s access to user data poses a security threat that we can’t overlook.

Communist China is our adversary and won’t hesitate to use any means necessary to promote their agenda.

Our school districts are working hard to make sure they can keep students and teachers safe.

All states should follow Florida’s lead and make sure schools give parents the opportunity to make the best decisions for their family.
A step in the right direction!

We should be finding ways to help American consumers have better access to information about where the products they are buying are made. This helps us support American businesses and jobs!

#BuyAmerican 🇺🇸
Especially during this challenging time, Floridians should keep an eye on Tropical Storm #Gonzalo as it moves across the Atlantic.

Now is the time to make sure that you and your family are stocked up on necessary supplies and have a plan. rickscott.senate.gov/prepare-hurric...

Key Messages for Tropical Storm Gonzalo
Advisory 4: 11:00 AM AST Wed Jul 22, 2020

1. Gonzalo is expected to move near or over the southern Windward Islands this weekend, and could bring direct impacts from winds and heavy rainfall. While it is too soon to determine the magnitude and timing of those impacts, interests in the southern Windward Islands should monitor the progress of Gonzalo.
Congrats to @UF on their incredible partnership with NVIDIA that will push the university’s research capabilities even further.

As the proud home to higher education’s most powerful #AI supercomputer, I look forward to seeing everything they’ll accomplish for our state & nation.
This crisis should not be used as an excuse to spend Florida taxpayers’ hard-earned dollars to bail out poorly-managed state budgets.

It is reckless and irresponsible. I will not allow it.