

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 18, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

As members of the GOP Doctors Caucus, we applaud your April 14, 2020 decision to withhold funding from the World Health Organization (WHO) following the organization's failure to prevent Chinese misinformation, and share your interest in ensuring the WHO makes necessary changes to its leadership in light of its response to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The WHO's response to COVID-19 has been severely lacking. As medical providers, we know the United States and the international community need strong, credible public health information from around the globe to effectively respond to emerging diseases. However, from the onset of this crisis the WHO consistently cowed to China and accepted the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) lies as truth. WHO leadership even helped the CCP downplay and cover up the threat, with WHO Director-General Tedros praising China for its handling of the virus in January when the CCP was falsely claiming there was no human-to-human transmission of COVID-19. Many of the most pressing disease threats of our time – including COVID-19 – emerged from China, and it is wholly unacceptable for the organization tasked with overseeing global public health to turn a blind eye to the CCP's botched response. It is clear that WHO leadership must change, and given that the United States funds a large percentage of their budget, we support withholding funding until the WHO has responsible, accountable leadership.

As we continue to fight this invisible enemy, the United States and the international community must also hold the Chinese government accountable for its lies, deceit and inaction – all of which allowed the virus to spread rapidly and delayed the international community's response.

Protecting public health is our highest priority, and we are grateful for your leadership in responding to this pandemic. We stand ready to assist you in this effort and will do our part in Congress to ensure a thorough investigation is conducted and that WHO leadership is held accountable.

Sincerely,

David P. Roe, M.D.
Member of Congress

Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress

Roger Marshall, M.D.
Member of Congress

Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M.
Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress

Jeff Van Drew, D.M.D.
Member of Congress

A. Drew Ferguson, IV, D.M.D.
Member of Congress

Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress