

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 6334, With an Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)**

116<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6334

To authorize United States participation in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 23, 2020

Mr. BERA (for himself and Mr. YOHO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To authorize United States participation in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Securing America  
5 From Epidemics Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Due to increasing population and popu-  
2           lation density, human mobility, and ecological  
3           change, emerging infectious diseases pose a real and  
4           growing threat to global health security.

5           (2) While vaccines can be the most effective  
6           tools to protect against infectious disease, the ab-  
7           sence of vaccines for a new or emerging infectious  
8           disease with epidemic potential is a major health se-  
9           curity threat globally, posing catastrophic potential  
10          human and economic costs.

11          (3) The 1918 influenza pandemic infected  
12          500,000,000 people, or about one-third of the  
13          world's population at the time, and killed  
14          50,000,000 people—more than died in the First  
15          World War.

16          (4) The economic cost of an outbreak can be  
17          devastating. The estimated global cost today, should  
18          an outbreak of the scale of the 1918 influenza pan-  
19          demic strike, is 5 percent of global gross domestic  
20          product.

21          (5) Even regional outbreaks can have enormous  
22          human costs and substantially disrupt the global  
23          economy and cripple regional economies. The 2014  
24          Ebola outbreak in West Africa killed more than

1 11,000 and cost \$2,800,000,000 in losses in the af-  
2 fected countries alone.

3 (6) The ongoing novel coronavirus outbreak re-  
4 flects the pressing need for quick and effective vac-  
5 cine and countermeasure development.

6 (7) While the need for vaccines to address  
7 emerging epidemic threats is acute, markets to drive  
8 the necessary development of vaccines to address  
9 them—a complex and expensive undertaking—are  
10 very often critically absent. Also absent are mecha-  
11 nisms to ensure access to those vaccines by those  
12 who need them when they need them.

13 (8) To address this global vulnerability and the  
14 deficit of political commitment, institutional capac-  
15 ity, and funding, in 2017, several countries and pri-  
16 vate partners launched the Coalition for Epidemic  
17 Preparedness Innovations (CEPI). CEPI's mission  
18 is to stimulate, finance, and coordinate development  
19 of vaccines for high-priority, epidemic-potential  
20 threats in cases where traditional markets do not  
21 exist or cannot create sufficient demand.

22 (9) Through funding of partnerships, CEPI  
23 seeks to bring priority vaccines candidates through  
24 the end of phase II clinical trials, as well as support

1 vaccine platforms that can be rapidly deployed  
2 against emerging pathogens.

3 (10) CEPI has funded multiple partners to de-  
4 velop vaccine candidates against the novel  
5 coronavirus, responding to this urgent, global re-  
6 quirement.

7 (11) Support for and participation in CEPI is  
8 an important part of the United States own health  
9 security and biodefense and is in the national inter-  
10 est, complementing the work of many Federal agen-  
11 cies and providing significant value through global  
12 partnership and burden-sharing.

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR UNITED STATES PARTICIPA-**  
14 **TION.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The United States is hereby au-  
16 thorized to participate in the Coalition for Epidemic Pre-  
17 paredness Innovations.

18 (b) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The Administrator for  
19 the United States Agency for International Development  
20 is authorized to designate an employee to serve on the In-  
21 vestors Council of the Coalition for Epidemic Prepared-  
22 ness Innovations as a representative of the United States.

23 (c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180  
24 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Presi-

1 dent shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-  
2 mittees a report that includes the following:

3 (1) The United States planned contributions to  
4 the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations  
5 and the mechanisms for United States participation  
6 in such Coalition.

7 (2) The manner and extent to which the United  
8 States shall participate in the governance of the Co-  
9 alition.

10 (3) How participation in the Coalition supports  
11 relevant United States Government strategies and  
12 programs in health security and biodefense, to in-  
13 clude—

14 (A) the Global Health Security Strategy  
15 required by section 7058(c)(3) of division K of  
16 the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018  
17 (Public Law 115–141);

18 (B) the applicable revision of the National  
19 Biodefense Strategy required by section 1086 of  
20 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fis-  
21 cal Year 2017 (6 U.S.C. 104); and

22 (C) any other relevant decision-making  
23 process for policy, planning, and spending in  
24 global health security, biodefense, or vaccine

1           and medical countermeasures research and de-  
2           velopment.

3           (d) UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTIONS.—Amounts au-  
4           thorized to be appropriated under chapters 1 and 10 of  
5           part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance  
6           Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) are authorized to  
7           be made available for United States contributions to the  
8           Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations.

9           (e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—  
10          In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-  
11          mittees” means—

12                 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
13                 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-  
14                 resentatives; and

15                 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
16                 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.