

March 3, 2023

Lauren Eriksen, Legislative Clerk Committee on Energy and Commerce 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Eriksen:

I submit this letter in response to a question for the record submitted by Representative Michael Burgess for a February 1, 2023 hearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations entitled "Challenges and Opportunities to Investigating the Origins of Pandemics and Other Biological Events."

The question states: "A simple yes or no please. 1. In your professional experience, could we have known the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic by March of 2020?"

My response: No.

If you should have any further questions regarding this response, please contact Melissa Hopkins of my team at melissa.hopkins@jhu.edu.

Sincerely,

Tom Inglesby, MD

Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security Professor, Environmental Health and Engineering Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Joint Appointment, Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine