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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

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Minority (202) 225-2927

February 6, 2026

Dr. Jassi Pannu  
Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security  
700 E Pratt St, Suite 900  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Dr. Pannu,

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, to testify at the hearing entitled “Examining Biosecurity at the Intersection of AI and Biology.”

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Monday, February 23, 2026. Your responses should be mailed to Annabelle Huffman, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed to [Annabelle.Huffman@mail.house.gov](mailto:Annabelle.Huffman@mail.house.gov).

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Joyce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light blue background behind the text.

John Joyce, M.D.  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations  
Committee on Energy and Commerce

cc: Yvette Clarke, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Attachment

## **Additional Questions for the Record**

### **The Honorable John Joyce (R-PA)**

1. What is the best way to assess the risk of the AI biological threat?
  - a. What would be the strongest empirical evidence for assessing the likelihood that AI could help generate a novel pandemic threat virus?
2. Do we have adequate visibility into the types of biological data—and volume of data—being aggregated by foreign adversaries for AI model training?
3. What disease characteristics concern you most that AI could optimize in a pathogen?
4. Can AI-enabled biological threats realistically be distinguished from a natural pathogenic outbreak if signs and symptoms became present in patients?
5. Are there any regulations or laws preventing a researcher from modeling potentially harmful AI-enabled pathogens in a computer lab?
6. Is the suitability screening of personnel to be in the Federal Select Agent Program sufficient to protect against an insider threat at a government laboratory?
7. What steps are AI companies like OpenAI taking to mitigate risks and protect their platforms from misuse related to biosecurity and terrorism?
  - a. Are these steps effective? If not, what would you recommend AI companies do to improve risk mitigation and biosecurity monitoring?
8. How can AI interpret the DNA of a pathogen and trace its origins?
9. Can AI help researchers identify surveillance and mitigation strategies for emerging biothreats?
10. From a clinical perspective how could AI assist public health management and preparation for biological threats?