

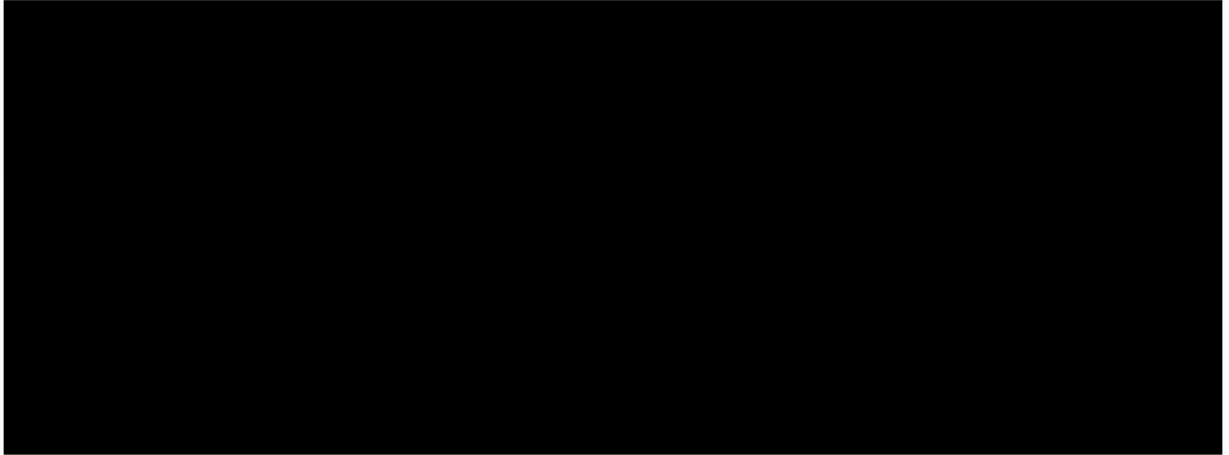
## MARKUP OF H. RES. 1466 AND H. RES. 1467

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

U.S. House of Representatives,  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,  
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 9:32 a.m., in Room HVC-304, Capitol Visitor Center, the Honorable Adam B. Schiff (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Schiff, Himes, Carson, Speier, Quigley, Welch, Maloney, Krishnamoorthi, Cooper, Crow, Turner, Wenstrup, Stewart, Crawford, Mullin, Kelly, Fitzpatrick, and Gallagher.



THE CHAIRMAN: The committee will come to order. A quorum is present. Without objection, the chair may declare a recess at any time. I will now briefly recognize the committee's security director for a security announcement.

██████████ I just want to remind everyone if you haven't checked your electronics out front to please do so at this time. That includes iPhones, androids, laptops, recording devices, cameras, wireless headsets, pagers, and any type of bluetooth wristband or watch, with the exception of any approved medical devices.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I now recognize myself for an opening statement for as much time as I may consume.

We meet this morning to mark up two resolutions of inquiry, both introduced by Ranking Member Turner. The first, House Resolution 1466, requests the President to transmit to the House of Representatives documents relating to the investigation by the Intelligence Community into the origins of the COVID-19 virus.

The second, House Resolution 1467, requires the President to transmit to the House documents relating to the use of authorities, personnel, and capabilities of the Intelligence Community to conduct domestic activities.

I will use this opening statement to discuss both resolutions. I would also like to remind members at the outset the committee is scheduled to hear from General Nakasone at 10 a.m., and we are hopeful that we can conclude this business meeting by that time.

COVID-19 has resulted in the deaths of over 6.6 million people around the world, including nearly 1.1 million people in the United States.

In March 2021, President Biden tasked the IC with preparing a report on the origins of COVID-19. In May of that year, after receiving the initial IC report, which

did not reach a definitive conclusion on the question of COVID-19's origins, the President asked the IC to redouble their efforts.

The President received a new classified assessment in August 2021. This committee also received that classified report, along with an unclassified summary of the report's key judgments. Again, the IC was unable to reach a high confidence assessment about the origins of the virus.

I will now repeat what I said at the time, because I believe it is still valid. I said I appreciate the comprehensive analysis the Intelligence Community has undertaken on the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic. Determining the source of the pandemic, including whether it originated from animal-to-human transmission or a lab accident, is critically important. It is important that we allow analysts, along with medical and scientific experts, to conduct their work professionally without bias or politicization.

I also stated, what is clear is that China's continued obstruction of a transparent, comprehensive examination of the relevant facts and data remains the single greatest impediment to determining the source of the virus. This stonewalling approach is unacceptable and delays the vital work necessary to prevent the next potential pandemic.

Put simply, every member of this committee believes it is critical for the IC to continue its work to get to the bottom of this question. And while I can't discuss details in open session, I have every confidence they are doing just that.

Turning now to H. Res. 1467. As with the origins of COVID-19, the committee has undertaken rigorous bipartisan oversight of the Intelligence Community's use of its authorities, personnel, and capabilities to conduct domestic activities.

Our shared goal is to ensure those activities are carried out in compliance with applicable laws, including laws intended to protect the privacy and civil liberties of Americans.

That is why this year's Intelligence Authorization Act required the DNI to annually submit a report that identifies all domestic activities undertaken by each IC element and that describes the legal authority authorizing such activity.

To ensure compliance with this statutory mandate, the committee included a provision in this year's committee-passed IAA that fenced funding for the Intelligence Community Management Account until the DNI submits the first domestic activities report required by last year's IAA.

The committee has included other provisions in the accompanying classified annex that underscored the committee's strong bipartisan interest in this topic. It is my understanding that the DNI and the broader IC understand the requirement they have been given and are working to fulfill it.

In summary, these two resolutions of inquiry involve subjects that are legitimate and important areas of committee oversight and that have been the focus of rigorous and bipartisan oversight.

For these reasons, I intend to vote to report both resolutions to the full House without recommendation, and I respectfully ask my colleagues to do the same.

I now yield to the ranking member for any opening remarks that he would like to make.

MR. TURNER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The subject requests for inquiry are necessary, because the Intelligence Community has repeatedly ignored information requests, including congressional-directed actions and statutory provisions from the fiscal year 2022

Intelligence Authorization Act.

I want to echo what the chairman was saying. These are statutory provisions that have bipartisan and bicameral report, and they are being ignored by the IC.

Of the two, first, House Resolution 1466 requests that the President transmit documents to the House related to the Intelligence Community's investigation into the origins of COVID-19.

In May 2021, President Biden tasked the IC to conduct this review. The IC has inadequately briefed the committee on its findings and has refused to answer certain questions that have been asked, including the IC's use and dependence on outside experts and the composition of the biologic science experts group.

To date, committee Republicans have sent 27 letters to IC element heads requesting information related to the IC's review of COVID origins. Additionally, in the enacted fiscal year 2022 IAA, funds were fenced from ODNI until they provided a listing of outside experts who contributed to their analytic products.

Next, House Resolution 1467 requests that the President transmit documents to the House related to the authorities, personnel, and capabilities of the IC to conduct domestic activities unrelated to foreign intelligence.

In early 2021, President Biden tasked the IC to conduct a review of the threats posed by domestic violent extremism. In March 2021, the ODNI released a public report on the heightened threat posed by domestic violent extremists.

Since the issuance of this report, committee Republicans have questioned ODNI and IC's legal authority to be involved in the collection, analytic review, and dissemination of information related to domestic violent extremism that has no ties to foreign intelligence.

To date, committee Republicans have sent 19 letters to IC element heads requesting information related to the IC's involvement in domestic activity.

In the fiscal year 2022 IAA, Congress enacts a statutory requirement for the DNI to provide a report by June 13 and annually thereafter on the IC's domestic activities. As of to date, this report has not been provided to Congress.

As a result of the IC not providing the information that has been requested by this committee and mandated by Congress, it is the prerogative of the House to request such information from the President in order to fulfill its Article I oversight responsibilities.

For this reason, I recommend that all members support the chairman's motion for the committee to report both resolutions to the House.

I yield back.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ranking Member Turner.

Pursuant to notice, I now call up House Resolution 1466, a resolution of inquiry requesting the President to transmit to the House of Representatives documents relating to the investigation by the Intelligence Community into the origins of COVID-19 virus. The clerk will designate the resolution.

THE CLERK: House Resolution 1466, inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the investigation by the Intelligence Community into the origins of the COVID-19 virus.

THE CHAIRMAN: Without objection, the resolution is considered as read and will be open for amendment at any point.

[The information follows:]

\*\*\*\*\* INSERT 1-1 \*\*\*\*\*

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any member wish to be recognized on the legislative text in this unclassified setting?

Very well. That will conclude discussion at the unclassified level.

Any discussion of classified material will require the committee to move to a closed session. Does any member wish to be heard in a classified setting?

Hearing none, the chair moves that the committee report H. Res. 1466 to the House without recommendation.

All those in favor will say aye.

Those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it. The motion is adopted, and the resolution is ordered to be reported to the House without recommendation.

Pursuant to notice, I now call up House Resolution 1467, resolution of inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the use of authorities, personnel, and capabilities of the Intelligence Community to conduct domestic activities.

The clerk will designate the resolution.

THE CLERK: House Resolution 1467, inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the use of authorities, personnel, and capabilities of the Intelligence Community to conduct domestic activities unrelated to foreign intelligence.

THE CHAIRMAN: Without objection, the resolution is considered as read and will be open for amendment at any point.

[The information follows:]



\*\*\*\*\* INSERT 1-2 \*\*\*\*\*

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any member wish to be recognized on the legislative text in an unclassified setting?

Very well. That will conclude discussion of the unclassified portion of the resolution.

Discussion of classified material will require the committee to move to closed session.

Does any member wish to discuss the matter in a classified setting?

Hearing none, the chair moves that the committee report H. Res. 1467 to the House without recommendation.

All those in favor will say aye. Those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it. The motion is adopted, and the resolution is ordered to be reported to the House without recommendation.

I now ask unanimous consent that the committee staff be authorized to make any necessary technical, grammatical, and conforming changes to the resolutions.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

I further ask unanimous consent that the committee's security director be authorized to review the transcript of today's open meeting and to make any redactions necessary to protect classified or other protected information.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

I further ask unanimous consent that, consistent with House Rules, members be given two additional calendar days to file supplemental minority, additional, or dissenting views for inclusion in the report to the House pursuant to clause 2(l) of House Rule XI.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Is there any further business before the committee?

Seeing none, without objection, the committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 9:43 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

