

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

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### MEMORANDUM

March 6, 2020

**To: Members of the Committee on Oversight and Reform**

**Fr: Committee Staff**

**Re: Hearing on “Coronavirus Preparedness and Response”**

**On Wednesday, March 11, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Committee will hold a hearing to examine whether the United States is adequately prepared to respond to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Member opening statements will begin at 9:30 a.m., and witness testimony will begin at 10:00 a.m. All efforts will be made to conclude the hearing by 1:00 p.m.**

#### I. HEARING PURPOSE

On June 26, 2019, the Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing to examine the Trump Administration’s National Biodefense Strategy and the government’s preparedness to respond to man-made and natural biological threats.<sup>1</sup> Since then, the COVID-19 virus has infected at least 93,000 people in 88 countries and killed about 3,000 people. On February 26, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed the first instance of possible “community spread” of COVID-19 in the United States, meaning that the patient’s exposure is unknown.<sup>2</sup>

#### II. WITNESSES

**Dr. Anthony Fauci**

Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
National Institutes of Health

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<sup>1</sup> Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on National Security, *Hearing on U.S. Biodefense, Preparedness, and Implications of Antimicrobial Resistance for National Security* (June 2019) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/legislation/hearings/us-biodefense-preparedness-and-implications-of-antimicrobial-resistance-for>).

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *CDC Confirms Possible Instance of Community Spread of COVID-19 in U.S.* (Feb. 27, 2020) (online at [www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0226-Covid-19-spread.html](http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0226-Covid-19-spread.html)).

**Dr. Anne Schuchat**  
Principal Deputy Director  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Dr. Robert Kadlec**  
Assistant Secretary, Preparedness and Response  
Department of Health and Human Services

**Dr. Terry M. Rauch**  
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for  
Health Readiness Policy and Oversight  
Department of Defense

**Mr. Peter T. Gaynor** (*Invited*)  
Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Mr. Chris Currie**  
Director, Emergency Management and National Preparedness  
Government Accountability Office

Staff contacts: Dan Rebnord, Ali Golden, and Richard Trumka at (202) 225-5051.