

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115  
Majority (202) 225-2927  
Minority (202) 225-3641

June 19, 2017

Dr. Rick A. Bright  
Director, Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority  
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Dr. Bright:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, to testify at the hearing entitled "U.S. Public Health Response to the Zika Virus: Continuing Challenges."

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 Wednesday, June 14, 2017. Your responses should be mailed to Ali Fulling, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to [Ali.Fulling@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ali.Fulling@mail.house.gov).

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

Sincerely,



Tim Murphy  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Attachment

## Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

### The Honorable Tim Murphy

1. What is our current capacity to test for the Zika virus in the United States?
  - a. In your opinion, is this capacity sufficient to meet demand for diagnostic tests, particularly among pregnant women in the summer months?
  - b. How does HHS plan to ramp up this capacity in the coming months, particularly as we get into the months where we could see local transmission of Zika in the United States?

### The Honorable Frank Pallone

1. HHS recently reported that ASPR has obligated \$110.6 million of its fiscal year 2017 Zika funds. How much funding does BARDA have remaining in 2017 for Zika preparation or response? Does BARDA have sufficient funds remaining to support these efforts for the remainder of fiscal year 2017?

### The Honorable Kathy Castor

1. Please provide an update on vaccine development and clinical trials.
2. Please provide the latest information on the Zika vaccine licensing agreement between the U.S. Army and Sanofi and any relevant details.
3. With many members of Congress, states and public health advocates worried that the Zika vaccine being developed at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research with taxpayer dollars will be priced too high, how is the federal government working to ensure Sanofi, when/if a licensing agreement is made, will sell this taxpayer funded vaccine at an affordable price to federal and state governments and to consumers?
4. How has public health advice regarding Zika evolved over the past few years for young men and women? What do we know now that we did not before and what new information could be on the horizon?
5. When does each federal agency believe they will run out of money to respond properly to Zika, including vector control, surveillance, vaccine and diagnostics development/improvement and research?