

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the premier infectious disease research institution in the world, was well situated at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak to both assist the response of the people and Government of the People's Republic of China and prepare the people and Government of the United States to handle the virus in the case of international spread;

Whereas the National Health Commission of China failed to include individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 but remained asymptomatic in its daily tally of confirmed COVID-19 cases, hampering the ability of public health authorities in the United States to accurately account for the rate of spread and the health risks of the virus;

Whereas a Foreign Ministry Spokesman of the Government of the People's Republic of China, Zhao Lijian, claimed that COVID-19 originated in the United States and that the United States Army brought COVID-19 to Wuhan to wage biological warfare on China;

Whereas other officials of the Government of the People's Republic of China, including scientists working on the COVID-19 response of China, the Ambassador to South Africa of China, and the Ambassador to Australia of China, have claimed that there is no evidence that COVID-19 originated in China;

Whereas, on March 4, 2020, Xinhua News Agency, an official mouthpiece of the Government of the People's Republic of China, published an article threatening to cut off medical supply exports to the United States and "plunge [the United States] into the mighty sea of coronavirus";

Whereas, on March 17, 2020, the Government of the People's Republic of China expelled nationals of the United States working at the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, and the New York Times, reducing the spread of reliable information on the COVID-19 outbreak in China; and

Whereas a study by the University of Southampton found that if the Government of the People's Republic of China had taken action 3 weeks earlier, the spread of COVID-19 would be reduced by 95 percent globally: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the Government of the People's Republic of China to—

(A) publicly state that there is no evidence that COVID-19 originated anywhere else but China;

(B) denounce the baseless conspiracy that the United States Army placed COVID-19 in Wuhan;

(C) revoke the expulsion of journalists of the United States;

(D) end the detention of Uyghur Muslims and other persecuted ethnic minorities; and

(E) end all forced labor programs;

(2) condemns—

(A) the censorship of the Government of the People's Republic of China of doctors and journalists during the early days of the COVID-19 outbreak, particularly the treatment of the deceased Dr. Li Wenliang;

(B) the refusal of the Government of the People's Republic of China to allow scientists from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to assist its response to COVID-19 for more than a month after cooperation was offered, needlessly endangering the lives of its own citizens and hampering the early attempts of the United States to learn more about COVID-19; and

(C) the duplicitous denial of the National Health Commission of China of the person-to-person transmissibility of COVID-19; and

(3) calls for the Director-General of the World Health Organization, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, to retract highly misleading statements of support for the response of the Government of the People's Republic of China to COVID-19, especially his

praise for the "commitment from top leadership [of the Government of the People's Republic of China], and the transparency they have demonstrated".

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1574. Mr. CRAMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 748, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1575. Mr. MORAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 748, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1576. Mr. SASSE (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 748, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1574. Mr. CRAMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 748, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE —BUTCH LEWIS ACT OF 2020

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Butch Lewis Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. PENSION REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION; ESTABLISHMENT; POWERS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Department of the Treasury an agency to be known as the "Pension Rehabilitation Administration".

(b) DIRECTOR.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION.—There shall be at the head of the Pension Rehabilitation Administration a Director, who shall be appointed by the President.

(2) TERM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term of office of the Director shall be 5 years.

(B) SERVICE UNTIL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR.—An individual serving as Director at the expiration of a term may continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

(3) POWERS.—

(A) APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES.—The Director may appoint Deputy Directors, officers, and employees, including attorneys, in accordance with chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code.

(B) CONTRACTING.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Director may contract for financial and administrative services (including those related to budget and accounting, financial reporting, personnel, and procurement) with the General Services Administration, or such other Federal agency as the Director determines appropriate, for which payment shall be made in advance, or by reimbursement, from funds of the Pension Rehabilitation Administration in such amounts as may be agreed upon by the Director and the head of the Federal agency providing the services.

(ii) SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS.—Contract authority under clause (i) shall be effective for any fiscal year only to the extent that appropriations are available for that purpose.

(c) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may transfer for any fiscal

year, from unobligated amounts appropriated to the Department of the Treasury, to the Pension Rehabilitation Administration such sums as may be reasonably necessary for the administrative and operating expenses of the Pension Rehabilitation Administration.

SEC. 3. PENSION REHABILITATION TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 98 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 9512. PENSION REHABILITATION TRUST FUND.

"(a) CREATION OF TRUST FUND.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the 'Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund' (hereafter in this section referred to as the 'Fund'), consisting of such amounts as may be appropriated or credited to the Fund as provided in this section and section 9602(b).

"(b) TRANSFERS TO FUND.—

"(1) AMOUNTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TREASURY BONDS.—There shall be credited to the Fund the amounts transferred under the Butch Lewis Act of 2020.

"(2) LOAN INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Pension Rehabilitation Administration established under the Butch Lewis Act of 2020 shall deposit in the Fund any amounts received from a plan as payment of interest or principal on a loan under such Act.

"(B) INTEREST.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'interest' includes points and other similar amounts.

"(3) TRANSFERS FROM SECRETARY.—The Director of the Pension Rehabilitation Administration shall deposit in the Fund any amounts received from the Secretary for administrative and operating expenses pursuant to such Act.

"(4) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts credited to or deposited in the Fund shall remain available until expended.

"(c) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—Amounts in the Fund are available without further appropriation to the Pension Rehabilitation Administration—

"(1) for the purpose of making the loans described in the Butch Lewis Act of 2020,

"(2) for the payment of principal and interest on obligations issued under such Act, and

"(3) for administrative and operating expenses of such Administration."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 98 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Sec. 9512. Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund."

SEC. 4. LOAN PROGRAM FOR MULTIEMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS.

(a) LOAN AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Pension Rehabilitation Administration established under this Act is authorized—

(A) to make loans to multiemployer plans (as defined in section 414(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) which are defined benefit plans (as defined in section 414(j) of such Code) and which—

(i) are in critical and declining status (within the meaning of section 432(b)(6) of such Code and section 305(b)(6) of such Act) as of the date of the enactment of this Act, or with respect to which a suspension of benefits has been approved under section 432(e)(9) of such Code and section 305(e)(9) of such Act as of such date;

(ii) as of such date of enactment, are in critical status (within the meaning of section 432(b)(2) of such Code and section