

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1376

To require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID–19, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2023

Mr. TURNER (for himself, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CRAWFORD, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HILL, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WALTZ, and Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID–19, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “COVID–19 Origin Act
5 of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) identifying the origin of Coronavirus Dis-
4 ease 2019 (COVID–19) is critical for preventing a
5 similar pandemic from occurring in the future;

6 (2) there is reason to believe the COVID–19
7 pandemic may have originated at the Wuhan Insti-
8 tute of Virology; and

9 (3) the Director of National Intelligence should
10 declassify and make available to the public as much
11 information as possible about the origin of COVID–
12 19 so the United States and like-minded countries
13 can—

14 (A) identify the origin of COVID–19 as ex-
15 peditiously as possible; and

16 (B) use that information to take all appro-
17 priate measures to prevent a similar pandemic
18 from occurring again.

19 **SEC. 3. DECLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION RELATED TO**
20 **THE ORIGIN OF COVID–19.**

21 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
22 ment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence
23 shall—

24 (1) declassify any and all information relating
25 to potential links between the Wuhan Institute of Vi-

rology and the origin of the Coronavirus Disease
2019 (COVID–19), including—

(A) activities performed by the Wuhan Institute of Virology with or on behalf of the People’s Liberation Army;

(B) coronavirus research or other related activities performed at the Wuhan Institute of Virology prior to the outbreak of COVID–19; and

(C) researchers at the Wuhan Institute of Virology who fell ill in autumn 2019, including for any such researcher—

(i) the researcher’s name;

(ii) the researcher’s symptoms;

(iii) the date of the onset of the researcher’s symptoms;

(iv) the researcher’s role at the Wuhan Institute of Virology;

(v) whether the researcher was involved with or exposed to coronavirus research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology;

(vi) whether the researcher visited a hospital while they were ill; and

(vii) a description of any other actions taken by the researcher that may suggest

1 they were experiencing a serious illness at
2 the time; and

3 (2) submit to Congress an unclassified report
4 that contains—

5 (A) all of the information described under
6 paragraph (1); and

7 (B) only such redactions as the Director
8 determines necessary to protect sources and
9 methods.

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