ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

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June 7, 2024

Anthony Fauci, M.D. C/O David Schertler, Esq. Schertler, Onorato, Mead, & Sears LLP 555 13th St., NW Suite 500 West Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Dr. Fauci:

The Committee on the Judiciary and Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government are conducting oversight of how and to what extent the Executive Branch has coerced or colluded with companies and other intermediaries to censor Americans' speech. We believe that you are uniquely positioned to aid the Committee's oversight, as you served as Chief Medical Advisor to President Biden and Chief Medical Advisor for President Biden's COVID-19 Response Team. During your tenure, the Response Team participated in extensive efforts to unconstitutionally monitor and censor Americans' speech on social media platforms. Accordingly, we request that you appear for a transcribed interview and produce documents relevant to our investigation.

In 2021, while you served as Chief Medical Advisor to President Biden and Chief Medical Advisor for the Response Team, senior Biden White House officials from that team engaged in a monthslong censorship effort.<sup>4</sup> Internal Facebook communications obtained by the Committee and Select Subcommittee reveal that one of the world's largest social media

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Ryan Tracy, Facebook Bowed to White House Pressure, Removed Covid Posts, WALL St. J. (July 28, 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Missouri v. Biden*, No. 3:22-cv-01213-TAD-KDM (W.D. La. Jul. 4, 2023), Dkt. 206-1 (Deposition of Dr. Anthony Fauci), at 10:13-16; 336: 8-12; 336:17-20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See e.g., Ryan Tracy, Facebook Bowed to White House Pressure, Removed Covid Posts, Wall St. J. (July 28, 2023); Staff of the H. Comm. On the Judiciary and the Select Subcomm. On the Weaponization of the Fed. Gov't of the H. Comm. On the Judiciary, 118th Cong., The Censorship Industrial Complex: How Top Biden White House Officials Coerced Big Tech to Censor Americans, True Information, and Critics of the Biden Administration (Comm. Print May 1, 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Staff of the H. Comm. On the Judiciary and the Select Subcomm. On the Weaponization of the Fed. Gov't of the H. Comm. On the Judiciary, 118th Cong., The Censorship Industrial Complex: How Top Biden White House Officials Coerced Big Tech to Censor Americans, True Information, and Critics of the Biden Administration (Comm. Print May 1, 2024).

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platforms censored the lab leak theory because of "pressure" from the Biden White House.<sup>5</sup> Consistent with the silencing of those who dared to express an opposing viewpoint, you and other bureaucrats reportedly "sidelined" Dr. Robert Redfield, then-Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) because he "had a different point of view" and believed the virus "came from a Wuhan lab."

On June 3, 2024, you testified before the Oversight Committee's Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic (Coronavirus Select Subcommittee) that you have "kept an open mind" about the lab leak theory and did not play a part in the "push to downplay the lab leak theory." This is false on its face. It is also contradicted by Facebook's decision to remove content about the lab leak theory because of "pressure" from the Biden Administration, particularly the Response Team, of which you were a member. To better understand how and to what extent the Executive Branch has coerced or colluded with companies and other intermediaries to censor Americans' speech, we respectfully request that you appear for a transcribed interview before the Committee.

In addition, recent reporting from the Coronavirus Select Subcommittee alleges that you may have taken "part in a conspiracy amongst the highest levels of [National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)]" to "destroy" or "hide" "official records regarding the origins of COVID-19," including by conducting official business on your personal email and deleting official records in an attempt avoid the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and public

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 2-5, 38; Rep. Jim Jordan (@Jim\_Jordan), X (May 1, 2024, 3:31 PM), https://twitter.com/Jim Jordan/status/1785753836532978067.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Josh Christenson, Ex-CDC chief: Fauci 'sidelined' me from COVID debate for backing lab leak theory, N. Y. POST (Mar. 8, 2023); see also Investigating the Origins of COVID-19: Hearing Before the Select Subcomm. on the Coronavirus Crisis of the H. Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, 118th Cong. (Mar. 8, 2023) (written statement of Dr. Robert R. Redfield). ("Based on my initial analysis of the data, I came to believe—and still believe today—that it indicates COVID-19 infections more likely were the result of an accidental lab leak than the result of a natural spillover event.")

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> A Hearing with Dr. Anthony Fauci: Hearing Before the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis of the H. Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, 118th Cong. (June 3, 2024) (testimony of Dr. Anthony Fauci).

<sup>8</sup> See, e.g., Memo. from Select Subcomm. on the Coronavirus Pandemic Staff to Select Subcomm. on the Coronavirus Members (Mar. 5, 2023) ("New evidence released by the Select Subcommittee today suggests that Dr. Fauci 'prompted' the drafting of a publication that would 'disprove' the lab leak theory."); Email from David Morens, M.D., Senior Scientific Advisor, Nat'l Inst. Of Allergy & Infectious Diseases, to Jason Gale, Bloomberg (July 29, 2021), available at https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023.06.29-BRW-Letter-to-DM-Re.-Origins\_Redacted\_Final.pdf ("[M]y boss tony [Fauci] actually ASKED me to speak to the National Geographic on the record about origins. I interpret this to mean that our government is lightening up[,] but that Tony doesn't want his fingerprints on origin stories."); see also Email from Dr. Francis Collins to Dr. Anthony Fauci (Apr. 16, 2020, 5:02 PM) ("Wondering if there is something NIH can do to help put down this very destructive conspiracy, with what seems to be growing momentum . . . I hoped the Nature Medicine article on the genomic sequence of SARS-CoV-2 would settle this. . . . Anything more we can do?"), available at https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Letter-Re.-Feb-1-Emails-011122.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Staff of the H. Comm. On the Judiciary and the Select Subcomm. On the Weaponization of the Fed. Gov't of the H. Comm. On the Judiciary, 118th Cong., The Censorship Industrial Complex: How Top Biden White House Officials Coerced Big Tech to Censor Americans, True Information, and Critics of the Biden Administration, at 2-5 (Comm. Print May 1, 2024).

disclosure to the American people. <sup>10</sup> In light of these revelations, please also provide the following documents and information in your possession:

- 1. All documents and communications, from January 1, 2019 to the present, between or among you and any employee, contractor, or agent of the Executive Branch of the United States Government referring or relating to the moderation, deletion, suppression, restriction, demonetization, or reduced circulation of content, or the accuracy or truth of content.
  - a. This request includes but is not limited to all documents and communications, from January 1, 2019 to the present, between or among you, Peter Daszak, Francis Collins, and any other Executive Branch employee, contractor, or agent referring or relating to the deletion of records or use of alternate methods of communication to avoid FOIA requests, congressional oversight, and/or discovery in litigation related to documents and communications responsive to Request 1.
- 2. All documents and communications, from January 1, 2019 to the present, between or among you and any employee, contractor, or agent of the NIAID and any technology company, including social media companies, referring or relating to the moderation, deletion, suppression, restriction, demonetization, or reduced circulation of content, or the accuracy or truth of content.

Please contact Committee staff to schedule your transcribed interview and produce all documents and information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 21, 2024. We also ask that you review the documents produced to the Committee before your interview in order to refresh your memory. On November 23, 2022, you were deposed in *Murthy v. Missouri* (then-captioned *Missouri v. Biden*) and stated "I do not recall," "I don't remember," or variations thereof at least 212 times.<sup>11</sup>

Pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction to conduct oversight of matters concerning "civil liberties" to inform potential legislative reforms. <sup>12</sup> In addition, H. Res. 12 authorized the Committee's Select Subcommittee

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Press Release, Select Subcomm. on the Coronavirus Crisis of the H. Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, New COVID Select Memo Details Allegations of Wrongdoing and Illegal Activity by Dr. Fauci's Senior Scientific Advisor (May 22, 2024), https://oversight.house.gov/release/new-covid-select-memo-details-allegations-of-wrongdoing-and-illegal-activity-by-dr-faucis-senior-scientific-advisor/; STAFF MEMO. OF THE SELECT SUBCOMM. ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC OF THE H. COMM. ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY, 118TH CONG., ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING AND ILLEGAL ACTIVITY BY DR. DAVID MORENS, SENIOR ADVISOR TO NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES FORMER-DIRECTOR, DR. ANTHONY FAUCI (Comm. Print May 22, 2024); see also Benjamin Mueller, Health Officials Tried to Evade Public Records Laws, Lawmakers Say, N. Y. TIMES (May 28, 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Hearing on the Weaponization of the Fed. Gov't: Hearing Before the Select Subcomm. on the Weaponization of the Fed. Gov't. of the H. Comm. on Judiciary, 118th Cong. (Mar. 30, 2023) (testimony of D. John Sauer), at 45-46; see also Fauci Dep. supra note 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Rules of the House of Representatives R. X (2023).

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on the Weaponization of the Federal Government to investigate "issues related to the violation of the civil liberties of citizens of the United States." <sup>13</sup>

If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Jordan

Chairman

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Ranking Member

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> H. Res. 12 § 1(b)(1).