

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2020

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chairwoman
House Committee on Oversight and Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

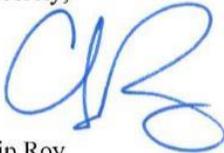
Dear Chairwoman,

The outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) has highlighted a critical threat to the domestic supply of life-saving prescription drugs. Too many supply chains for our most critical medicines and medical devices are too dependent on China. We write to request the House Committee on Oversight and Reform hold a hearing to examine this threat to our economic and national security.

The United States continues to be a world leader in drug development and innovation. Yet global supply chains for the manufacturer of critical medicines and medical devices rely so heavily on China that the recent COVID-19 outbreak has resulted in alarming shortages in the United States. Chinese companies produce more than 90 percent of our supply of antibiotics, vitamin C, ibuprofen, and hydrocortisone.¹ This raises disturbing strategic vulnerabilities that China can exploit as an economic weapon in the event of a conflict. There is no doubt that China is aware of this weapon. A recent article in the state-controlled news agency, Xinhua stated, "If China retaliates against the United States at this time...it will also announce strategic control over medical products and ban exports to the United States. Then the United States will be caught in the ocean of the new coronaviruses."²

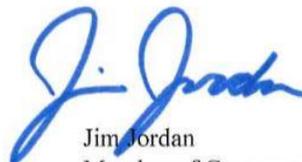
Our current experience with COVID-19 brings this issue front and center. The House Committee on Oversight and Reform should schedule a hearing and invite witnesses qualified to discuss the complexities of global pharmaceutical supply chains to assist Members in developing solutions to this staggering threat to our security. We urge that you give this matter your immediate attention.

Sincerely,



Chip Roy
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Member of Congress

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/11/business/economy/coronavirus-china-trump-drugs.html?auth=login-email&login=email>

² http://www.xinhuanet.com/2020-03/04/c_1125660473.htm

Sincerely,



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Thomas Massie
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Clay Higgins
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



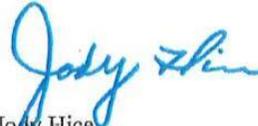
Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Jody Hice
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



James Comer
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



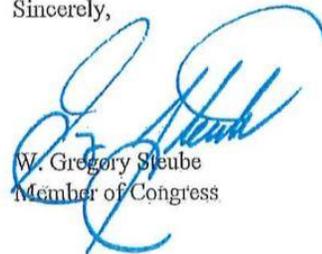
Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Mark E. Green, M.D.
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress