

Thank you for contacting me about the reports related to the World Health Organization (WHO) amendments under consideration to the International Health Regulations (IHR) and U.S. sovereignty. I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with me.

First and foremost, you should know that the WHO framework clearly states that the WHO has no policing or enforcement authority over its member countries, and countries that are part of the WHO and subject to the IHR have "the sovereign right to legislate and to implement legislation in pursuance of their health regulations." This language appears on [page 10 of the IHR](#). Therefore, nothing adopted by the WHO or into the IHR would supersede U.S. laws or your Constitutional rights.

I understand why you would be concerned about the WHO. I believe the WHO has demonstrated a total lack of transparency during the COVID-19 pandemic. I am fighting to hold the WHO accountable through my leadership on the Energy and Commerce Committee and will continue to make sure federal policies preserve individual liberty.

The amendments currently up for consideration to the IHR were first suggested under the Trump administration in response to the Chinese Communist Party's attempts to hide data and information on their COVID-19 outbreak from the world. We cannot allow rogue regimes and authoritarian leaders to hide critical health data, especially when a lack of such data would threaten the lives of Americans, as well as U.S. national security and the U.S. economy.

If adopted, the amendments would allow the WHO to declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) without the agreement of the member country where the outbreak is occurring.

Again, the amendments would not allow the WHO to implement any laws or regulations on member countries. Rather, the WHO would be able to declare a PHEIC and share critical information with member countries about disease outbreaks that threaten their public health and national security.

Please know that I am paying close attention to your concerns, and rest assured that I would forcefully reject any measure that has the potential to compromise U.S. sovereignty or your Constitutional rights. As your advocate in Congress, my top priority is to listen to you and lead on solutions you can count on. Please stay in touch. I send out a regular update that gives you an inside look at my week ahead. You can subscribe by [clicking here](#).

Sincerely,



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress