November 2, 2022

Dear Chairman Reed, Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Inhofe and Ranking Member Rogers,

We, the undersigned organizations, write to express our support for global pandemic preparedness and response legislation to be included in the final conference of the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Our organizations represent a mix of groups partnering with the U.S. government to implement global health security programming, along with technical experts and advocates focused on improving global pandemic preparedness and response. We are grateful for the leadership of both Congressmen Connolly and Chabot for their championship of the Global Health Security Act (H.R. 391) and of Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Risch for their championship of the International Pandemic Preparedness and COVID-19 Response Act (S.2297).

We were encouraged by the inclusion of the Global Health Security Act in the House passed NDAA and the inclusion of the International Pandemic Preparedness and COVID-19 Response Act in the current package of amendments being considered as part of the final NDAA package. As negotiations continue, we urge you to support a bipartisan, compromised text that upholds and enhances U.S. leadership in global pandemic preparedness and response, and to prioritize it as part of the final conference and legislation.

Legislation from both the House and Senate take important steps to codify and strengthen U.S. leadership in global pandemic preparedness and response, including by defining coordinated leadership and roles and responsibilities across the Administration, Departments, and Agencies, while authorizing U.S. participation and investment in a new Financial Intermediary Fund for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response. It is critical that Congress leads in supporting
both of these priorities – to ensure leadership and coordination for pandemic preparedness and response is maintained across administrations, and to ensure the Pandemic Fund has the support it needs to fulfill its transformative promise to break the current cycle of panic and neglect funding in responding to pandemics. While there are details that need to be aligned through negotiation, we trust leaders in Congress, in conversation with the White House and relevant Departments and Agencies, to respond to the urgency of this moment and take action to determine an effective solution.

Pandemics don’t wait. As we continue to battle COVID-19, we are simultaneously addressing new and emerging pandemic threats like monkeypox, Ebola, and polio. Congressional leadership is needed to strengthen the health security of Americans and the rest of the world. The time is now to act. We thank you for your leadership and urge action on this important legislation.

Signed:

AVAC
CARE
Conservation International
Corus International
Global Health Council
Global Health Technologies Coalition
IntraHealth International
International Medical Corps
Management Sciences for Health
Pandemic Action Network
PATH
Research!America
Re:wild
Right to Health Action
Shot@life
The Secretariat of the coalition for Preventing Pandemics at The Source
The Taskforce for Global Health
What To Expect Project