## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM 2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225–5051 MINORITY (202) 225–5074 https://oversight.house.gov

May 28, 2021

The Honorable Avril Haines Director Office of the Director of National Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20511

Dear Director Haines:

House Republicans are investigating the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic. While we appreciate the Biden Administration's sudden interest in investigating the origins of a pandemic that has killed 600,000 Americans and millions more worldwide, it is imperative that Congress conduct its own thorough investigation.

On Wednesday, President Biden stated he had asked his National Security Advisor to task the Intelligence Community (IC) to prepare a report "on [the IC's] most up-to-date analysis of the origins of COVID-19, including whether it emerged...from a laboratory accident."<sup>1</sup> President Biden stated he "received that report earlier this month."<sup>2</sup> President Biden also asked the IC "to keep Congress fully apprised of its work."<sup>3</sup>

Pursuant to the President's directive, we request, by June 3, 2021, a copy of the aforementioned IC report presented to President Biden earlier this month. The Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

James Comer Ranking Member Committee on Oversight and Reform

cc: The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman Committee on Oversight and Reform

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Statements & Releases, *Statement by President Joe Biden on the Investigations into the Origins of COVID-19*, The White House (May 26, 2021).

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Id*.