

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

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October 10, 2023

Mandy Cohen, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director  
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention  
395 E. Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Director Cohen:

The Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic is investigating the manner in which the state of New York implemented federal guidance from both the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding protecting residents in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Howard Zucker—currently, the Deputy Director for Global Health at the CDC—was directly involved in issuing New York’s directive in his previous position as the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Health. Accordingly, his testimony is important to properly investigate the circumstances and policies which led to the death of more than 15,000 New York nursing home residents. It would be an injustice to humankind to not conduct a thorough postmortem review in this situation.

As such, we request that you make Dr. Zucker available for a voluntary transcribed interview on November 30, 2023. If the witness is unable to participate on the requested date, please inform the Select Subcommittee at least one week prior. If the date is missed by the for invalid reasons, the Committees will consider the use of the compulsory process.

The Select Subcommittee is authorized to investigate “the implementation or effectiveness of any Federal law or regulation applied, enacted, or under consideration to address the coronavirus pandemic and prepare for future pandemics” and “executive branch policies, deliberations, decisions, activities, and internal and external communications related to the coronavirus pandemic” under H. Res. 5.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Mandy Cohen, M.D., M.P.H.

October 10, 2023

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Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.  
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Raul Ruiz, M.D., Ranking Member  
Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic