

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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August 19, 2026

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Former Secretary
United States Department of Health and Human Services
[Transmitted Electronically]

Dear Secretary Becerra:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is continuing its investigation into the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent mismanagement of the pandemic response by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and former National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci. Last month, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (HSGAC) publicly released over 1,100 pages of Dr. Fauci's personal diary—composed on government-issued computers between 2019 and 2022—which HHS Secretary Robert Kennedy produced after discovering the material on HHS servers.¹ Additionally, Secretary Kennedy produced a copy of Dr. Fauci's phone to the HSGAC Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which was never produced to the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic (Select Subcommittee) during your tenure as Secretary.² The contents of Dr. Fauci's diary and the existence of his phone suggests that your response to the November 2, 2023, request from the Select Subcommittee omitted key responsive documents and information.

In a joint letter sent by the Select Subcommittee and the Committee on Energy and Commerce (together “the Committees”) on November 2, 2023, the Committees specifically requested all documents and communications from Dr. Anthony Fauci that included such search terms as “COVID-19,” “gain-of-function,” and “Wuhan.”³ These terms, among others outlined in the document request, appear throughout Dr. Fauci's diary.⁴ Despite the existence of this clearly relevant and responsive information, you failed to include any portion of Dr. Fauci's diary in your response, let alone even acknowledge its existence. The Committee is concerned that you either intentionally withheld this information, or that you failed to conduct an adequate search of the Department's systems as requested in the November 2, 2023, letter.

¹ Sarah Owerhohle and Adam Cancryn, *Diary entries, a subpoena and an anticipated clash: Dr. Anthony Fauci and Rand Paul's long-running battle returns to the Hill*, CNN (July 28, 2026).

² Liz Whyte and Sabrina Siddiqui, *Senate Panel Says It Has Obtained Copy of Fauci's Covid-Era Phone*, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (Aug. 6, 2026).

³ Letter from James Comer, Chairman, H. Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, *et al.*, to Xavier Becerra, Sec'y, U.S. Dep't of Health and Human Services (Nov. 2, 2023).

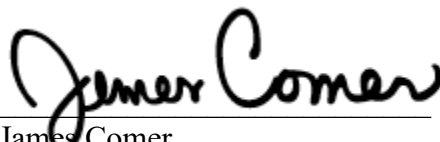
⁴ See generally *Tony's Diary*, Off. of Sen. Rand Paul, Chairman, Sen. Comm. On Homeland Sec. & Gov't Affairs (July 24, 2026), available at https://www.paul.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/2026.07.24_Tonys-Diary-Package.pdf.

To assist the Committee's oversight of this matter, please provide written responses to the following interrogatories as soon as possible but no later than September 2, 2026:

1. Why was Dr. Fauci's diary not produced in your response to the Select Subcommittee's November 2, 2023, document request?
2. Why was Dr. Fauci's phone not produced in your response to the Select Subcommittee's November 2, 2023, document request?
3. Were you aware of the existence of Dr. Fauci's diary and phone at any time during your tenure as Secretary?
4. Are there other sources of data and information responsive to the Select Subcommittee's November 2, 2023, document request that were not produced?
5. Did any Biden Administration officials, including but not limited to any political appointees within HHS or the Executive Office of the President, advise or pressure you to omit responsive documents from your reply to the Select Subcommittee's November 2, 2023, document requests?
6. Did the Department conduct a full and complete search of its records using the search terms provided in the Select Subcommittee's November 2, 2023, letter?

The Committee on Oversight and Government 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. To arrange for delivery of documents or to ask any related follow-up questions, please contact the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Majority staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "Comer" clearly distinguishable.

James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

cc: The Honorable Robert Garcia, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform