

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 820

By Travis

A RESOLUTION relative to the World Health Organization.

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has proven itself to be a corrupt organization that has hampered worldwide public health efforts; and

WHEREAS, WHO has a history of mismanagement and scandals, including the cover-up of severe sexual abuse by its staff in the Democratic Republic of the Congo following an Ebola viral outbreak there; and

WHEREAS, WHO is an opaque organization unaccountable to the United States government, despite receiving between \$200 and \$600 million annually in U.S. taxpayer subsidies over the past decade; and

WHEREAS, WHO, as an organization, has chosen to place in positions of leadership on its Executive Board representatives of such extreme, authoritarian regimes as the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Belarus, in complete disregard of the human rights abuses regularly committed by these regimes; and

WHEREAS, at the beginning of the 2019 COVID (SARS-CoV-2) outbreak and throughout the pandemic, WHO officials were complicit with the government of the People's Republic of China in preventing international understanding of the virus and its effects and in covering up the virus's origins, thereby increasing the severity of the pandemic and its death toll; and

WHEREAS, WHO is currently in the process of drafting new International Health Regulations and a proposed Pandemic Preparedness Treaty that will further expand the organization's authority, empower authoritarian regimes, contribute to the theft of intellectual

property, undermine the sovereignty of western democratic nations, and threaten western liberal democracy; and

WHEREAS, the United States has its own Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to address issues of domestic and international public health and disease preparedness, which organization is accountable to the people of the United States and their elected representatives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that:

1. The U.S. Representatives and Senators elected by the people of Tennessee are encouraged to take all steps necessary and reasonable to end taxpayer funding of the World Health Organization;

2. The President of the United States and his foreign policy officials are strongly encouraged to reject the creation of any policy, law, convention, or regulation, whether through amendments to the International Health Regulations or through the drafting of an international agreement regarding Pandemic Preparedness, that would in any way further empower this ineffective and corrupt World Health Organization; and

3. The United States Government and its representatives are further encouraged to take measures ensuring the fundamental freedoms of the American people against the corrupting influence of international organizations such as WHO that, all too often, are under the influence of authoritarian foreign regimes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Speaker and the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President and the Secretary of the U.S. Senate, and each member of Tennessee's delegation to the U.S. Congress.