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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 9, 2020

Dr. Robert Redfield, Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2800 Cobb Galleria Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339

Dear Dr. Redfield:

Dr. Redfield

The continuing spread of COVID-19 is a clear and present danger to every community in America. One of the most fundamental elements of an effective response to this epidemic is transparency: a constant sharing of information with Americans about the threat we are facing together and the steps we must take to meet this titanic challenge imbued with total candor and honesty.

I am outraged by the misinformation put out by Donald Trump, particularly during his visit to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on March 6, 2020. That visit, combined with the CDC's continuing failure to coordinate with the states and share information, can only undermine Americans' confidence in CDC's ability to lead with forthrightness. Please provide answer to the following inquires.

- Have you or any of your subordinates been directed by Trump or officials within the White House or U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to censor doctors or scientists to withhold, downplay, or lie about the spread of coronavirus in the U.S.?
- Have you personally sought to muzzle any doctors or scientists wishing to inform the public about the spread of coronavirus in the United States?
- To your knowledge, was there ever a potential case of COVID-19 at the CDC, which Trump expressed publicly on March 6?
- To your knowledge, is the CDC relying on advice from the Department of Justice or an opinion from the Office of Legal Counsel to censor information about the coronavirus to Congress and to the American people? Are you contemplating such censorship?
- Will you commit to CDC providing daily live updates to its coronavirus infection statistics? Will you commit to updating coronavirus infection statistics throughout weekends?

Thank for you in advance for your prompt answers to these questions.

Sincerely,

Bill Pascrell Jr.

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress