

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID–19, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID–19, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “COVID–19 Origin Act  
5 of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

8 (1) identifying the origin of Coronavirus Dis-  
9 ease 2019 (COVID–19) is critical for preventing a  
10 similar pandemic from occurring in the future;

1           (2) there is reason to believe the COVID–19  
2 pandemic may have originated at the Wuhan Insti-  
3 tute of Virology; and

4           (3) the Director of National Intelligence should  
5 declassify and make available to the public as much  
6 information as possible about the origin of COVID–  
7 19 so the United States and like-minded countries  
8 can—

9                   (A) identify the origin of COVID–19 as ex-  
10 peditiously as possible, and

11                   (B) use that information to take all appro-  
12 priate measures to prevent a similar pandemic  
13 from occurring again.

14 **SEC. 3. DECLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION RELATED TO**  
15 **THE ORIGIN OF COVID–19.**

16       Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-  
17 ment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence  
18 shall—

19           (1) declassify any and all information relating  
20 to potential links between the Wuhan Institute of Vi-  
21 rology and the origin of the Coronavirus Disease  
22 2019 (COVID–19), including—

23                   (A) activities performed by the Wuhan In-  
24 stitute of Virology with or on behalf of the Peo-  
25 ple’s Liberation Army;

1 (B) coronavirus research or other related  
2 activities performed at the Wuhan Institute of  
3 Virology prior to the outbreak of COVID–19;  
4 and

5 (C) researchers at the Wuhan Institute of  
6 Virology who fell ill in autumn 2019, including  
7 for any such researcher—

8 (i) the researcher’s name;

9 (ii) the researcher’s symptoms;

10 (iii) the date of the onset of the re-  
11 searcher’s symptoms;

12 (iv) the researcher’s role at the  
13 Wuhan Institute of Virology;

14 (v) whether the researcher was in-  
15 volved with or exposed to coronavirus re-  
16 search at the Wuhan Institute of Virology;

17 (vi) whether the researcher visited a  
18 hospital while they were ill; and

19 (vii) a description of any other actions  
20 taken by the researcher that may suggest  
21 they were experiencing a serious illness at  
22 the time; and

23 (2) submit to Congress an unclassified report  
24 that contains—

1                   (A) all of the information described under  
2                   paragraph (1); and

3                   (B) only such redactions as the Director  
4                   determines necessary to protect sources and  
5                   methods.