



October 27, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
317 Russel Senate Office Building
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell,

On behalf of Research!America, thank you for your leadership during a tumult of new and newly emerging public health threats, none more deadly and destructive than COVID-19. Under two Administrations, you have stepped up to confront this brutal, relentless pandemic. We ask that you join forces against another lethal threat: inaction.

Trend data indicate that another global pandemic is not just possible, but [probable](#). We recognize the challenge entailed in defending now against future threats. It is difficult to fathom the possibility of another pandemic or contemplate the implications of two or more global pandemics coinciding. Yet, Senate HELP Committee Chair Patty Murray and Ranking Member Richard Burr have achieved bipartisan committee passage of the bipartisan PREVENT Pandemics Act ([S.3799](#)),

As the death count from COVID-19 reveals --1,069,299 deaths in the U.S. and 6,583,500 deaths globally as of 5:00 pm ET on October 25, 2022 – inaction is a decision. Millions of lives, trillions of dollars, and our shared future all hang in the balance.

We urge you to work with Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy to secure Congressional passage of the PREVENT Pandemics Act as an urgent priority when Congress returns in November. If Research!America can assist your efforts in any way, it would be a privilege to do so.

Thank you for your consideration and for the commitment and hard work you and your respective staff members devote to the health and wellbeing of us all.

Sincerely,

Mary Woolley
President & CEO
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