



HR0864

LRB102 27727 ECR 39522 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The International Health Regulations (IHR) were
3 adopted by 194 member countries of the World Health
4 Organization (WHO) in 2005; and

5

WHEREAS, The 2005 regulations enable the WHO to declare a
6 Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) if it
7 decides that an infectious disease outbreak has occurred in a
8 member country; this PHEIC must be declared with the consent
9 of the member country, which in practice recognizes the
10 sovereignty of the nations that adopted the IHR; and

11

WHEREAS, On January 18, 2022, President Biden, through the
12 United States Department of Health and Human Services (U.S.
13 DHHS), announced proposed amendments to the IHR that many
14 believe would transfer U.S. sovereign authority over health
15 care decisions to the WHO director-general; and

16

WHEREAS, The proposed IHR amendments, which unlike a
17 formal global treaty are not subject to U.S. Congressional
18 approval, would cede basic national public health powers to an
19 international body and override our basic sovereignty to the
20 WHO; and

21

WHEREAS, Many concerned citizens and health organizations

1 around the world believe that these proposed IHR amendments
2 give the WHO unilateral authority to determine health
3 emergencies and to dictate policy and response, which will
4 threaten national sovereignty and lead to a centralized
5 governance model of global health surveillance, management,
6 and reporting; and

7 WHEREAS, The World Health Assembly (WHA), which is the
8 decision-making body of WHO, will meet for its 75th Assembly
9 in Geneva, Switzerland from May 22 through May 28 to hold
10 sessions with partner agencies and WHO experts to discuss
11 current and future priorities for public health issues of
12 global importance; and

13 WHEREAS, The proposed IHR amendments are being
14 fast-tracked by President Biden for consensus during the 75th
15 Assembly; this is concerning because there will be no public
16 citizen comment opportunities to officially sound the alarm,
17 and many believe this violates the basic tenets of our
18 democracy; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
20 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
21 we urge the U.S. DHHS to withdraw its proposed IHR amendments
22 until such a time that there is sufficient input from the
23 public and partner agencies; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we affirm our national sovereignty as it
2 relates to public health governance and citizens' inalienable
3 rights; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
5 delivered to the President of the United States, the U.S.
6 Senate Majority Leader, the U.S. Senate Minority Leader, the
7 U.S. Speaker of the House, the U.S. House of Representatives
8 Minority Leader, and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of
9 Health and Human Services.