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7 out of 10 Americans 'Concerned' About Next Pandemic; 81% Support Congress Spending More on Preparedness

Poll shows public wants stronger biosecurity, while Congress considers PREVENT Pandemics Act

WASHINGTON, DC – Americans are clearly concerned about future pandemics and public health threats, as a new poll from the Alliance for Biosecurity finds.

Despite recent government COVID-19 spending in excess of \$5 trillion, [a nationwide survey](#) reveals that 70% of Americans are "concerned" about the threat of another pandemic.

Equally overwhelming, 81% of Americans say they support Congress "increas[ing] the budget this year for developing preventive measures for biological and chemical threats." This support comes even amidst concerns about inflation and federal spending.

Additionally, most Americans say they are more likely to vote for officials who support increased preparedness and response funding.

The poll comes as Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee Chair, Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), and Ranking Member, Senator Richard Burr (R-NC), released a discussion draft of the Prepare for and Respond to Existing Viruses, Emerging New Threats, and Pandemics Act (PREVENT Pandemics Act).

The polling data clearly show Americans care greatly about health security threats and want their elected officials putting more resources into preparedness against naturally occurring and man-made biological threats.

Since 2014, funding to purchase and develop vaccines and therapies for use during an emergency has a shortfall of more than \$1 billion. Nearly 60% of Americans expressed concern about this specific lack of sufficient preparedness funding. It is clear Congress must take action to dedicate funding to enhancing national health security and supporting the rapid development, production, stockpiling, and distribution of critically needed, lifesaving medical countermeasures. A funding shortfall of this magnitude cannot be ignored, Congress should respond to the American people and increase funding for preparedness and response programs.

Like most Americans surveyed, Members of the Alliance for Biosecurity urge Congressional Members to advance legislation to strengthen and adequately fund America's pandemic preparedness and response capabilities.

[View Survey Key Findings Here](#)

[View Raw Survey Results & Crosstabs Here](#)

Feedback on the discussion draft may be submitted to HELPPandemicBill@help.senate.gov until February 4, 2022.

A section-by-section of the PREVENT Pandemics Act is available [HERE](#).

Legislative text for PREVENT Pandemics Act discussion draft available [HERE](#).

The national public opinion survey was conducted by Remington Research Group, via both landlines and cell phones. The margin of error is +/- 2.5% with a 95% level of confidence, 1,517 likely 2022 General Election voters participated in the survey and results are weighted to match expected turnout demographics for the 2022 General Election.

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Elected officials, staff, and members of the media are encouraged to contact Alliance leadership any time if we can be of service providing information, background, or updates on biosecurity issues:

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Those interested in joining the Alliance for Biosecurity should contact
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The Alliance for Biosecurity is a coalition of biopharmaceutical companies and laboratory/academic partners that promotes a strong public-private partnership to ensure medical countermeasures are available to protect public health and enhance national health security. The Alliance advocates for public policies and funding to support the rapid development, production, stockpiling, and distribution of critically needed medical countermeasures. Learn more online at AllianceForBiosecurity.com and by following [@AllianceCBRN](https://twitter.com/AllianceCBRN) on Twitter.



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