

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 23, 2022

Lawrence A. Tabak, D.D.S., PhD.
Acting Director
National Institutes of Health
900 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dr. Tabak:

Yesterday, Dr. Anthony Fauci announced his intention to step down from his position as Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and Chief of the NIAID Laboratory of Immunoregulation in December.

In light of this announcement, I formally request you ensure the preservation of all documents and communications within Dr. Fauci's possession related to his tenure at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This information is critical to ensure that Congress has access to information necessary to conduct proper oversight regarding events that took place during Dr. Fauci's tenure with the agency.

Specifically, I request you preserve all records, e-mail, electronic documents, and data created by or shared with Dr. Fauci during his tenure at NIH that relate to COVID-19 including, but not limited to, NIAID-funded coronavirus research. This preservation request also includes all records of official business conducted on non-official accounts. For purposes of this request, "preserve" shall be construed to mean taking reasonable steps to prevent the partial or full destruction, alteration, testing, deletion, shredding, incineration, wiping, relocation, migration, theft, mutation, or negligent or reckless handling that could render the information incomplete or inaccessible.

Additionally, I request that you notify all relevant individuals, including current and former employees, officials, detailees, contractors, subcontractors, or consultants, to preserve all potentially relevant documents, communications, or other information.

The American people deserve transparency and accountability from the NIH regarding the COVID-19 pandemic regardless of Dr. Fauci's future employment plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rand Paul". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rand" and last name "Paul" clearly distinguishable.

Rand Paul, M.D.
U.S. Senator