

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 180

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 20, 2023

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ROBERT AUTH
District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Flynn, Assemblyman Peterson, Assemblywoman Swift,
Assemblymen Thomson, Wirths and Space

SYNOPSIS

Urges President to withdraw United States from World Health Organization.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/2023)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the U.S. President to withdraw
2 the United States from the World Health Organization.
3

4 **WHEREAS**, The World Health Organization (WHO) is the United
5 Nations agency tasked with developing, promoting, and
6 implementing global health policy; and

7 **WHEREAS**, In its role as a global health leader, the WHO was
8 responsible for directing the international response to the
9 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, including
10 providing information, guidance, and directives, as well as
11 investigating the origins of the disease and developing strategies to
12 contain and mitigate its spread; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Although the WHO learned of the virus that causes
14 COVID-19 on December 31, 2019, it took a full month to identify
15 the virus as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern,
16 and it was not until March 2020 that the WHO first used the term
17 “pandemic” to describe COVID-19; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Early on in the pandemic, the WHO issued conflicting and
19 shifting guidance, particularly with regard to the use of facial
20 coverings, and for several months discouraged people from wearing
21 facemasks in public; in fact, prior to the development of COVID-19
22 vaccines, aside from social distancing, the use of facial coverings
23 was one of the most effective ways of preventing transmission of
24 the disease; and

25 **WHEREAS**, The WHO took more than a year to send an investigational
26 team into Wuhan, China, where the COVID-19 pandemic is
27 believed to have originated, and when it finally did so, the WHO
28 allowed the Chinese government to establish parameters limiting
29 the scope of the investigation; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the WHO failed to
31 call for border closings and the halt of international air travel, both
32 of which measures may have helped slow or stop the spread of the
33 disease; and

34 **WHEREAS**, It has been asserted that the WHO is a dictatorial
35 organization with the authority to declare a pandemic, and, under
36 the guide of a declared pandemic, order lockdowns, quarantines,
37 and school closures, mandate vaccinations, police the media, and
38 crack down on anyone spreading disinformation or misinformation
39 about the pandemic; and

40 **WHEREAS**, Some pundits on the left argue anything in the biosphere
41 that can harm human health is a pandemic; accordingly, it is argued
42 the WHO would be empowered to declare pandemics based on
43 climate change, racism, fisheries, and the acidification of the ocean,
44 among other things; and

45 **WHEREAS**, It is alleged that the WHO receives significant funding
46 from the Communist government in China, and as such is unduly
47 influenced by China; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Because of the WHO's failures in its response to the
2 COVID-19 pandemic, from its slow and inadequate initial response,
3 its inconsistent and erroneous statements, and its unjustifiable
4 deference to the Chinese government, as well as concerns as to the
5 potential breadth of its authority to reach into every aspect of life
6 across the globe, it is the sentiment of the New Jersey General
7 Assembly that the United States should withdraw from the WHO
8 and cease making monetary contributions to the organization; now,
9 therefore,

10
11 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
12 *Jersey:*

13
14 1. The New Jersey General Assembly respectfully urges the
15 President of the United States to withdraw the United States from,
16 and to cease making monetary contributions to, the World Health
17 Organization.

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19 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
20 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the
21 President of the United States.

22
23
24 **STATEMENT**

25
26 This Assembly resolution respectfully urges the President of the
27 United States to withdraw the United States from, and to cease
28 making monetary contributions to, the World Health Organization
29 (WHO).

30 The WHO is the United Nations agency tasked with developing,
31 promoting, and implementing global health policy, and was
32 responsible for directing the international response to the
33 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

34 It is the sentiment of the General Assembly that the WHO's
35 failures in its pandemic response, including a slow and inadequate
36 initial reaction to the emergence of the disease, the issuance of
37 inconsistent and erroneous guidance that may have exacerbated the
38 spread of COVID-19, and its unjustifiable deference to the Chinese
39 government, particularly with regard to the WHO's investigation
40 into the origins of the virus, as well as concerns as to the potential
41 breadth of its authority to reach into every aspect of life across the
42 globe, merit withdrawing the United States from the organization.