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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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March 5, 2024

The Honorable Merrick Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland,

I write to request that you examine ongoing lobbying by the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) that advances the interests of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and identify the legislative reforms necessary to require greater transparency disclosures for such lobbying under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA).

BIO is a membership-based trade association representing biotechnology industry companies, including WuXi Apptec.¹ BIO's advocacy on behalf of WuXi AppTec raises concerns that it is operating as an unregistered agent of a foreign principal while advancing the interests of the People's Republic of China (PRC) government and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

Wuxi AppTec is a PRC-based biotechnology company contributing to the growing threat to U.S. national security posed by the CCP. Wuxi AppTec has extensive ties to the CCP and People's Liberation Army (PLA).² It is embedded in China's military-civil fusion strategy and actively advances the CCP's objectives.³ Wuxi Apptec also operates a type of PLA-affiliated

¹ "BIO Member Directory," *Biotechnology Innovation Organization*, <https://www.bio.org/bio-member-directory>
Accessed March 4, 2024.

² Mike Gallagher et al. to Gina Raimondo et al., February 12, 2024, <https://selectcommitteeontheccp.house.gov/media/letters/letter-admin-investigate-chinese-biotech-company-wuxi-apptec>.

³ Sunny Cheung, Arran Hope, and Peter Mattis, "Red Genes: Assessing WuXi AppTec's Ties to the Party-Army-State in China," *The Jamestown Foundation*, February 9, 2024, <https://jamestown.org/program/red-genes-assessing-wuxi-apptecs-ties-to-the-party-army-state/>

genetic testing center that the CCP weaponizes as part of its genocide campaign targeting Uyghurs and other ethnic minority groups.⁴

BIO has undertaken a recent advocacy campaign against the BIOSECURE Act (H.R.7805), which I introduced in January 2024.⁵ The BIOSECURE Act is intended to block foreign adversary biotechnology companies from accessing federal funds and exploiting the American bioeconomy. BIO member company WuXi Apptec is one of four entities identified by name in the legislation as a foreign adversary biotechnology company of concern.

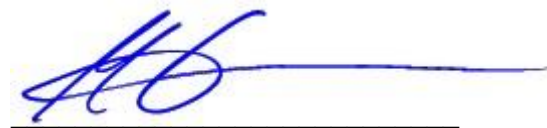
In a February 2024 letter sent to Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee leaders advocating against the BIOSECURE Act, BIO Chief Executive Officer Rachel King obscures the nature of WuXi Apptec and downplays its national security risk profile despite credible evidence to the contrary available in open sources. In sidestepping the substantive concerns raised by a group of bipartisan, bicameral lawmakers regarding WuXi Apptec and its extensive foreign adversary government and military ties, Ms. King is attempting to misrepresent WuXi Apptec as a benign entity.

BIO's advocacy on behalf of WuXi Apptec – intended to protect the company's access and commercial ties in the United States despite the risk to U.S. national security – is aligned with the interests of the CCP and PRC government.

I respectfully request that the Department brief Select Committee staff within 30 days on the applicability of FARA requirements in this instance of BIO's lobbying activities; potential FARA exemptions related to BIO's lobbying on behalf of WuXi Apptec; and legislative changes that would compel trade associations lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary military-linked commercial entity, against U.S. national security legislation, to register as foreign agents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mike Gallagher
Chairman
House Select Committee on the CCP

⁴ Mike Gallagher et al. to Gina Raimondo et al., February 12, 2024, <https://selectcommitteeontheccp.house.gov/media/letters/letter-admin-investigate-chinese-biotech-company-wuxi-apptec>.

⁵ U.S. Congress, House, *A Bill to Prohibit Contracting with Certain Biotechnology Providers, and for Other Purposes (BIOSECURE Act)*, HR 7085, 118th Cong., 2nd sess., introduced in House January 25, 2024, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/7085>