

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 2, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20502

Dr. Kelvin K. Droegemeier
Director
Office of Science and Technology Policy
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20502

The Honorable Russell T. Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

The Honorable Alex Azar
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Secretary Wilbur Ross
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dr. Robert R. Redfield
Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329

The Honorable Dr. Stephen M. Hahn
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20993

The Honorable Peter T. Gaynor
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear President Trump, Director Droegemeier, Director Vought, Secretary Azar, Secretary Ross, Director Redfield, Commissioner Hahn, and Administrator Gaynor:

We are living in extraordinary times that have forced us to depend upon digital solutions like never before. The impacts of the Coronavirus are everywhere: from working and teaching remotely to transferring desperately needed funds – the ways in which we engage digitally has only grown.

Your agencies are engaged in alleviating the impact of this crisis right now. Blockchain technology is an important resource that the United States must pursue to ensure that we can protect the well-being of our people and ensure economic prosperity. The membership of the Congressional Blockchain Caucus urges your consideration, support, and implementation of utilizing blockchain technology that could greatly mitigate the effects of the Coronavirus. In addition, convening leaders in both the private and public sectors to meet and develop a coordinated strategy to utilize blockchain technology would help facilitate relief to those impacted by this extraordinary threat.

The United States must establish and maintain a digital infrastructure that is reliable, accurate, flexible, and secure. There are numerous examples in which blockchain technology can ease the way in which we interact digitally. Among some of the potential solutions blockchain can assist with include identity, supply chains, and registries.

First, simply authenticating an individual's identity to receive necessary funding or supplies could be facilitated securely with digital identity solutions using blockchain technology. The built-in architecture of blockchains enables seamless identification, for example, when receiving government benefits, while its strong encryption protects sensitive data.

Managing our crucial supply chains, in which identifying where supplies originate, their transportation routes, arrival times, and inventories are critical for government and consumers alike, from food safety, to pharmaceuticals, to the medical supply chain. The lack of these fundamental supplies has served as a wake-up call across the nation as we continue to struggle to track, reroute, and deliver necessary supplies to those who need them most. Blockchains can even serve as registries for licensed doctors, nurses, and other health care providers to better enable appropriate identification and possible deployment of these skilled resources in times of crisis.

Lastly, blockchain can improve the registries of medical professionals and the necessary certifications and licenses during this time. In addition to identity solutions to verify experience and required qualifications, registries of medical professionals as well as needed personal protective equipment (PPE), among others, could improve deployment and efficiencies of critical resources.

We thank you for your efforts during this uncertain time. In a time where many are learning about new ways to operate while keeping America's leadership on the world stage, we strongly encourage you to review new innovations and methods of deploying government services. Blockchain stands to be a major asset in that pursuit.

Sincerely,



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



David Schweikert
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Stephen Lynch
Member of Congress

Warren Davidson
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress