

## SRES 553

A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Government of the People's Republic of China made multiple serious mistakes in the early stages of the COVID-19 outbreak that heightened the severity and spread of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including the intentional spread of misinformation to downplay the risks of COVID-19, a refusal to cooperate with international health authorities, internal censorship of doctors and journalists, and a malicious disregard for the health of ethnic minorities.

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Mar 24, 2020

**Current Status:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text: CR S2014-2015)

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text: CR S2014-2015) (Mar 24, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-resolution/553>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		Mar 24, 2020

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 25, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

International Affairs

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HRES 907	Related bill	Apr 3, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and Nonproliferation.

### Summary (as of Mar 24, 2020)

This resolution condemns the Chinese government's response to the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) outbreak, including China's censorship of doctors and journalists during the early days of the outbreak and its refusal to accept assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The resolution also calls for (1) China to publicly state that there is no evidence that COVID-19 originated from outside China, and (2) the World Health Organization to retract misleading statements of support for China's response to COVID-19.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Mar 24, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 24, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text: CR S2014-2015)