



Chairman Tom Cole

*Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations*

**Public Witness Day Hearing
March 8, 2017
Opening Statement As Prepared**

Good morning. It is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education for a very special hearing. This is our public witness day, and it provides an opportunity for members of the public to come before this panel and draw our attention to particular issues of importance to them. I always look forward to hearing from our public witnesses as we learn so much about the challenges facing our people and what this Subcommittee can do to help solve them.

Before we begin I want to remind everyone that we need to strictly adhere to the 5 minute rule so that we will be able to keep closely to the schedule and hear from everyone before votes are called. For our witnesses, a five-minute clock will count down on the microphone box in front of you, when you have one minute remaining the light will turn yellow and you should begin to wrap up your testimony at that point. Remember that your full written statement will appear in the hearing record.

Before we begin, I'd like to turn to my Ranking Member for any remarks she'd care to make.