

Opening Statement of Chairman Fred Upton
Full Committee Markup on H.R. 4771, the Designer Anabolic Steroid Control Act; H.R. 4250, the Sunscreen Innovation Act; H.R. 594, the Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research and Education Amendments; H.R. 669, Sudden Unexpected Death and Data Enhancement and Awareness Act; H.R. 4290, the Wakefield Act; H.R. 4450, the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act; and H.R. 5057, EPS Service Parts Act
July 14, 2014

Last week, the Energy and Commerce Committee released its mid-year report, which highlighted our bipartisan success in 2014 to promote jobs and economic growth, transform Washington to create a smaller modernized government for the innovation era, and protect families, communities, and civic initiatives. This week, we look to build upon our strong record of results as we come together to consider seven bills.

We will first consider several bills to improve the public health, where the Health Subcommittee, under the leadership of Chairman Pitts, has been extremely productive.

The Designer Anabolic Steroid Control Act, which was introduced by Mr. Pitts along with Mr. Pallone, would allow the DEA to take swift action to ensure that consumers are not harmed by dangerous products that are being falsely marketed as dietary supplements.

The Sunscreen Innovation Act was introduced by Mr. Whitfield and Mr. Dingell and addresses the fact that the FDA has not approved a new sunscreen ingredient in nearly two decades. The goal of this legislation is to establish a streamlined review process, while maintaining strict safety standards, by which pending and new sunscreen applications are reviewed in a predictable and transparent manner.

The Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2014 was introduced by Health Subcommittee Vice

Chairman Michael Burgess and Mr. Engel. This bill would address important areas of research to help those living with Muscular Dystrophy.

The Sudden Unexpected Death Data Enhancement and Awareness Act, introduced by Mr. Pallone, would help us better understand, and enhance awareness about, sudden unexpected infant deaths.

Our final public health measure is the Wakefield Act, introduced by Mr. Matheson, to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children Program, which focuses on improving the pediatric components of the emergency medical services system.

We will next consider an important bill to boost jobs and the economy, the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014, authored by Mr. Bilirakis and Mr. Welch. This bill would reauthorize funding for Brand USA and increase accountability and transparency of the program. Just last week I held a roundtable in my district to discuss the tremendous benefits – thousands of local jobs and roughly a billion dollars contributed to the economy annually in Southwest Michigan alone – that come from tourism. Extending Brand USA will help market the United States as a world-class destination, and continue to attract visitors and economic growth to local communities.

Finally, we will consider the EPS Service Parts Act of 2014, introduced by Mr. Gardner and Mr. Tonko. This legislation offers regulatory relief by extending exemptions of certain external power supply service and spare parts from DOE efficiency standards.

I thank everyone for their collective work on these bipartisan bills, and urge their swift approval.