

Rep. Richard Hudson  
Statement for the Record  
Energy and Commerce Markup on September 30, 2015

Mr. Chairman, thank you for convening this important markup so the Committee can continue our work to pass conservative solutions that benefit the lives of all Americans. I'm especially pleased of the work we have accomplished on H.R. 8, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act. This bill reflects the Committee's commitment to passing commonsense reforms that prepare our workforce for the jobs of tomorrow, and updating old policies that do not reflect our current era of energy abundance.

I appreciate you and your staff working with me on Title II, dealing with workforce training programs. It is imperative we ensure our workforce is prepared for the energy jobs of today and tomorrow and this legislation takes vital steps to update workforce training programs to adequately address our current energy renaissance.

The measures in this title allow employers to work with educational institutions to identify what specific skills are needed in the workforce so that graduates are better prepared for these jobs. This benefits employers and educational institutions, but more importantly it empowers employees with the training they need to be successful in today's energy jobs, further benefitting them and their families.

Mr. Chairman, one of my goals coming to this Committee was to find common ground folks on both sides of the aisle and to work towards solutions that have a real world impact on the lives of Americans, and I thank you for moving this legislation which does just that.

Additionally, I'm pleased to see the Committee move forward with budget reconciliation recommendations, particularly defunding Medicaid reimbursement to certain abortion providers. The allegation that Planned Parenthood Federation of America has been selling fetal tissue for profit is not only repulsive, but also heartbreaking. We all should be outraged by these actions, and I'm glad to see the Committee take steps to end taxpayer funding for this organization.

With that Mr. Chairman, I yield back.