

Statement of Representative Anna G. Eshoo
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Full Committee Markup on H.R. 8, Reconciliation Recommendations, and H.R. 3242
2123 Rayburn House Office Building
September 29, 2015

Mr. Chairman,

I fully appreciate your inclusion of the *Energy Efficient Government Technology Act* in H.R. 8, the *North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015*. Sections 4111 and 4112 of the bill are nearly identical to H.R. 1268, which I introduced earlier this year with Rep. Kinzinger and three other members of this Committee. This noncontroversial bill received 375 votes on the House floor last year.

What's very disappointing is that the Manager's amendment includes several controversial provisions that are opposed by nearly every Democratic member of this Committee and the Administration. After months of negotiations on what would be the first comprehensive energy bill that this Committee has passed since 2007, we are left with highly partisan energy legislation containing poison pills that will make it dead on arrival at the President's desk.

Last week, China announced it will enact a national cap-and-trade system for carbon emissions beginning in 2017, as well as a "green power dispatch" program giving priority to renewables. The bill before us today does not include a single reference to climate change or clean energy, and does very little to help us achieve our climate goals. With China now agreeing to meaningful cuts in carbon emissions and with more commitments likely to come as we approach international negotiations in Paris in December, now is the time for the Committee to get serious about climate change. Instead, we are considering highly partisan legislation that does nothing to address climate change.

The Committee is also considering today Reconciliation measures that would repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund and defund Planned Parenthood.

The Prevention and Public Health Fund is an essential investment in public health and reduces our national long-term health costs. California has invested over \$195 million dollars through the Fund into evidence-based, community prevention programs. These programs reduce the leading causes of disease, disability and death.

As for defunding Planned Parenthood, this is another partisan assault on women's health care. In California alone, Planned Parenthood operates 115 health centers and serves nearly 800,000 patients through 1.5 million appointments annually. These are women, men, and teenagers seeking primary care, preventive care, and counseling. And for those women who have made the decision to seek an abortion, they cannot do so using federal dollars. Why? Because since 1976, when Congress passed the Hyde Amendment, the law has prohibited federal dollars from being used to fund abortions except in the cases of rape, incest or where the life of the woman is endangered.

All three of these reconciliation initiatives are unnecessary and hurtful attempts to chip away at meaningful healthcare programs under the false pretense of saving money and I cannot support them.