

AUTHORIZATION AND OVERSIGHT PLAN
OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 115TH CONGRESS

During the 115th Congress, the Committee on Energy and Commerce will hold hearings and conduct rigorous oversight over matters within its jurisdiction. The Committee will conduct thorough oversight, reach conclusions based on an objective review of the facts, and treat witnesses fairly. The Committee will request information in a responsible manner that is calculated to be helpful to the Committee in its oversight responsibilities. The Committee's oversight functions will focus on: 1) cutting government spending through the elimination of waste, fraud, and abuse and 2) ensuring laws are adequate to protect the public interest or are being implemented in a manner that protects the public interest, without stifling economic growth. The Committee will use the information it collects through its oversight to inform the reauthorization of certain lapsed programs within its jurisdiction.

HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE ISSUES

PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

To aid in legislative efforts to replace the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), the Committee will continue to examine issues related to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) implementation of PPACA, Public Law 111-148, and the related Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111-152. It is critical that the Committee understand decisions made in drafting and implementing PPACA so that it can replace PPACA with better solutions focused on helping consumers. The Committee will examine the continuing impact of PPACA and its implementing regulations on the economy, consumers, and the health care industry. The Committee will also examine the status and future of employer-sponsored health care plans as well as the effects of PPACA's enactment on the States. The Committee will continue to monitor the law's effects on individuals as well as the regulations and requirements imposed on small and large businesses.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

The Committee will review the management, operations, and activity of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the programs it administers. The Committee will examine and review Medicare and Medicaid

management and activity as it relates to ongoing Committee efforts to prevent bias, waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal health care programs. The Committee will investigate the process by which CMS implements statutory formulas to set prices for Medicare payment, as well as the effectiveness of those formulas. The Committee will investigate the processes by which CMS prevents bias, waste, fraud, and abuse in the award of government contracts.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND DRUG SAFETY

The Committee will review whether the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is ensuring that regulated drugs are safe, effective, and available to American patients in an expeditious fashion. The Committee will also explore the interplay between these policies and drug innovation, both in the United States and abroad. Further, the Committee will examine FDA's enforcement of current drug safety laws and the issues involved in protecting the nation's supply chains against economically motivated and other forms of adulteration, including those posed by illegal drug supply chains and economically-motivated adulteration. The Committee will examine whether FDA's reorganization efforts are improving the effectiveness of product reviews, or worsening delays and inefficiency in decision-making. The Committee will review FDA's efforts to improve and modernize import-safety screening, and the management of its foreign inspection program.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

The Committee will examine the roles of various Federal agencies involved in insuring and protecting the public health, including the implementation and management of these programs. In particular, the Committee will review Federal efforts on the opioid epidemic, pandemic preparedness, including influenza preparedness, the United States' response to the spread of the Zika virus, and other emerging infectious disease threats from abroad. The Committee will continue to evaluate the Federal response to the opioid epidemic, the Zika virus, and other public health emergencies to better understand the operation and efficacy of key public health programs and to address broader concerns about national all-hazards preparedness and response capacity. Further, the Committee will monitor related spending to ensure the appropriate and efficient use of Federal tax dollars.

21ST CENTURY CURES AND MENTAL HEALTH REFORMS

In the 115th Congress, the Committee will examine implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act, landmark legislation that will expedite the discovery,

development, and delivery of new treatments and cures. The legislation also included meaningful mental health reforms. The Committee will ensure that HHS and its component agencies, including FDA and the National Institutes of Health, and other relevant agencies implement the legislation in a manner that will quickly deliver the benefits provided by the law. The Committee will conduct oversight of the implementation of and work done by the newly-created Assistant Secretary for Mental Health, an office which will be responsible for HHS mental health programs and policies. The Committee will also examine regulations drafted to implement the 21st Century Cures Act to ensure they comport with the intent of Congress, and will monitor funding provided by the legislation to ensure that it is appropriately spent.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

During the 115th Congress, the Committee will examine issues relating to national energy policy, including U.S. policies that relate to the exploration, production, distribution, and consumption of electricity, oil and natural gas, coal, hydroelectric power, nuclear power, and renewable energy. The Committee will examine the impact of government policies and programs on the efficient exploration, production, storage, supply, marketing, pricing, and regulation of domestic energy resources, including issues relating to the nation's energy infrastructure. The Committee will continue to examine safety and security issues relating to energy exploration, production, and distribution.

ELECTRICITY SYSTEM AND ELECTRIC UTILITY MARKETS

During the 115th Congress, the Committee will undertake a comprehensive review of the nation's electricity system. This effort will include a review of the federal electricity policies of the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to ensure that those policies promote competitive wholesale power markets, transmission, generation infrastructure upgrades, and compliance with relevant statutes. It will also examine the activities of the DOE and FERC relating to electric industry restructuring, protection of consumers, and the development of efficient and vigorous wholesale markets for electricity. It will also continue to examine the activities of the DOE and FERC with respect to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations affecting the

electricity sector, including regulatory requirements that may impact consumer prices and reliability of the electricity grid.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY MANDATES

The Committee will continue to assess federal programs setting energy efficiency standards for motor vehicles, crafted by EPA and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and home appliances, crafted by DOE, to ensure that the programs are implemented in a manner that maximizes the benefit to consumers. In the case of motor vehicle standards, the Committee will also assess the merit of having two federal agencies operating parallel efficiency programs.

MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ITS NATIONAL LABORATORIES

The Committee will continue to oversee the governance, management, and operations issues at DOE, including oversight, management, and operations of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and the national laboratories. The Committee's oversight work will include review of the implementation of security and safety reforms at NNSA and DOE facilities, ongoing safety and security matters, and the Office of Environmental Management's cleanup program. This work will also include the Committee's special oversight functions over programs and activities relating to nonmilitary energy research and development.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN

The Committee will continue to examine the actions of DOE and the NRC in connection with obligations of these agencies under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, including licensing activities for the Yucca Mountain repository.

DOE ENERGY GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAMS

The Committee will continue to review management and implementation of clean energy and advanced technology grant and loan programs authorized under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and other statutes; the development of new technologies, products, and businesses including clean energy, advanced coal, nuclear, and other technologies; and the impact of DOE grant, cost-sharing, and loan spending on the domestic supply, manufacture and commercial deployment of clean and advanced energy products and other technologies.

THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

The Committee will continue to review the activities of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The Committee will examine NRC's budget requests and conduct oversight of the manner in which the Commission discharges its various responsibilities, including licensing activity, the safety and security of nuclear power facilities and nuclear materials licensees, and the Commission's regulatory actions.

CLEAN AIR ACT

The Committee will continue to review significant rulemakings under the Clean Air Act and the potential economic and job impacts of those rulemakings on the energy, manufacturing, industrial, and construction industries, and other critical sectors of the U.S. economy, as well as any public health and environmental benefits of the regulations. The Committee's review will include oversight of the EPA's decisions, strategies, and actions to meet Clean Air Act standards, and the current role of cost, employment and feasibility considerations in Clean Air Act rulemakings. The Committee will also continue to review EPA's implementation of the Renewable Fuel Standard.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Committee will continue to monitor international negotiations on efforts to control greenhouse gas emissions in connection with concerns about global climate change. In addition, the Committee will examine the EPA's efforts to regulate domestic greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act based on its endangerment findings. The Committee will consider whether such agreements and regulatory efforts are scientifically well grounded. The Committee will also review the activities undertaken in this area by DOE, HHS, and other agencies within the Committee's jurisdiction, including efforts to prepare for and respond to weather events and natural disasters in the future.

EPA MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The Committee will conduct general oversight of the EPA, including review of the agency's funding decisions, resource allocation, grants, research activities, enforcement actions, relations with State and local governments, public

transparency, and respect for economic, procedural, public health, and environmental standards in regulatory actions. In addition, the Committee will review the government's activities in hydraulic fracturing research and regulation.

ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

The Committee will monitor EPA implementation of reforms made to title I of the Toxic Substances Control Act. These efforts will include program management and the use of chemical risk analysis in environmental assessment programs. The Committee will also review deadline management and consistency of implementation, ensure that confidential business information is protected from unwarranted disclosure, and make certain that EPA provides the appropriate consideration of risks and their trade-offs during the evaluation and regulatory process.

DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULATION

The Committee will conduct oversight of the operation of the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund program authorized under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Included will be an examination of State funding uses, efficiencies that could be realized in managing this funding that maximize its effectiveness, and the use of this funding for leveraging other investments. In addition, the Committee will conduct oversight of EPA regulatory actions under section 1412 of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the protocol it uses to issue health advisories under the same section of law.

SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Committee will review EPA implementation of various regulatory programs established under the most recent administration, including regulations regarding the definition of solid waste and coal ash.

CERCLA (SUPERFUND) AND BROWNFIELDS

The Committee will monitor EPA implementation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation & Liability Act (CERCLA). These efforts will include an examination of State cleanup programs and a comprehensive analysis regarding whether cleanup under State programs would result in greater efficiency in the process. The Committee will also conduct oversight of EPA regulatory actions under CERCLA, in particular the current rule making for

financial assurance under CERCLA section 108(b). The Committee will also examine the EPA brownfields program, including statutory implementation, the challenges of program operation, and whether changes to the program would result in more effective and efficient cleanup and redevelopment of abandoned and blighted properties.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

A MODERN COMMUNICATIONS FRAMEWORK FOR THE INNOVATION AGE

The Committee will continue to exercise its jurisdiction over wired and wireless communications to ensure our nation's policies governing voice, video, audio, and data services are promoting investment, innovation, and job creation. The country's current regulatory regime takes a siloed approach in which different technological platforms—such as wireline, wireless, broadcast, cable, and satellite—are regulated differently based on regulations that may be decades old. As we move deeper into the Internet era, however, providers are increasingly using these platforms to offer the same or similar services. The Committee will examine whether these regulations should be updated to better meet the communications needs of the country and to ensure its citizens enjoy cutting edge services and the economic benefits they bring.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

During the 115th Congress, the Committee will conduct oversight of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), including the efforts to reverse the reclassification of Broadband Internet Access Service as a telecommunications service subject to Title II of the Communications Act of 1934 and efforts to bring transparency and accountability to the Commission's processes. The Committee will also continue to conduct oversight of the FCC's decisions and their impact on innovation and the U.S. economy. Among other things, the Committee will evaluate the impact generally of FCC actions on voice, video, audio, and data services, and on public safety. The Committee will pay particular attention to whether the FCC conducts cost-benefit and market analyses before imposing regulations.

SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT

The Committee will conduct oversight of the Federal Communications Commission's and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) management and allocation of the nation's spectrum for commercial and government use. Spectrum is increasingly being used to provide voice, video, audio, and data services to consumers and to serve the needs of our nation's government agencies. The Committee will evaluate spectrum-management policies to ensure efficient use of the public airwaves for innovative communications services. The Committee will also examine whether plans for allocating spectrum maximizes broadband deployment and encourages investment. The Committee will pay particular attention to FCC and NTIA implementation of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, which included provisions intended to make more spectrum available for mobile broadband services, as well as raise billions in spectrum auction proceeds.

AVAILABILITY OF BROADBAND

The Committee will investigate whether regulatory policies are helping or hindering broadband deployment. In particular, the Committee will examine the need for reforms to State and Federal permitting processes to speed the deployment of fiber optic systems and 5G wireless services. Additionally, the Committee will conduct oversight of funding mechanisms for broadband deployment and adoption, including the \$9 billion per year Universal Service Fund. Specifically, the Committee will examine what procedures are in place to control waste, fraud, and abuse, whether the funds are appropriately targeted, and the impact of the funding on jobs and the economy.

INTERNET

The Committee will exercise its jurisdiction over wired and wireless communications to ensure continued growth and investment in the Internet. In particular, the Committee will monitor efforts to employ the multi-stakeholder model of Internet governance—in which governmental and non-governmental entities develop best practices for the management of Internet networks and content. The Committee will also monitor international efforts to replace multistakeholder governance with domestic regulation and international multilateral institutions.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee will examine whether the communications needs of first responders are being met. The Committee will examine the progress being made to ensure that first responders have interoperable communications capabilities with local, State, and Federal public safety officials. The Committee will also examine the progress being made by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) in carrying out the mandates of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. Specifically, the progress made in finding private sector partners to develop an interoperable public safety broadband network and implementation of the network. In addition, the Committee will conduct oversight regarding the implementation of legacy 911 and Next Generation 911 (NG911) services. The Committee will review efforts to promote deployment of these advanced systems and challenges to realizing ubiquitous NG911.

DIGITAL COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

In the 115th Congress, the Committee will examine issues relating to the privacy and security of methods, information and data collected by businesses about consumers and the potential for improving protection without undercutting innovative uses that benefit consumers and the economy. Further, the Committee will continue to review the manner in which fraud and other criminal activities affect e-commerce. The Committee will also explore how privacy and cybersecurity policies should treat the burgeoning Internet of Things.

SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES

The Committee will examine the policy framework being put into place for self-driving vehicles. Self-driving vehicles hold the promise to greatly reduce traffic fatalities, while at the same time expanding mobility to additional subsets of Americans and doing so with less impact on the environment. It is critical that this technology is encouraged through smart approaches and to ensure that the potential of revolutionary change to the industry is not curtailed by unnecessary regulation.

MANUFACTURING

The Committee will explore the state of manufacturing in the United States to identify factors that are hampering or furthering U.S. competitiveness. The Committee will review the issues presented by the globalization of production and manufacturing networks, including the integrity of products and components assembled overseas and the impact on national security.

TRADE

The Committee will examine trade negotiations to ensure that foreign governments are not imposing non-tariff trade barriers, such as regulations or requirements, that harm U.S. businesses, their competitiveness and their ability to support jobs in the United States, especially as it relates to the flow of data across borders.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The Committee will conduct oversight of the Commerce Department and complementary or conflicting Federal efforts to promote U.S. manufacturing, exports, and trade, including efforts to lower or eliminate non-tariff barriers and harmonize regulation of products sold internationally where other countries share our health, safety, and consumer protection goals.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The Committee will continue oversight of the Consumer Product Safety Commission and its implementation and enforcement of laws and regulations relating to the safety of consumer products, including the agency's implementation of Public Law 112-28 and determination of priorities to ensure that it is efficiently and effectively protecting consumers.

NHTSA MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The Committee intends to continue oversight of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), including the effectiveness of the agency's structure, regulations, research activities, investigations, and enforcement actions pertaining to motor vehicle safety. The committee will be particularly

concerned with the way the Administration processes information and its ability to effectively oversee ever advancing safety technologies.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The Committee will conduct oversight of the Federal Trade Commission's management and operations, including the impact of its decisions and actions on the general public and the business community, its determination of priorities and the need, if any, for refinement of its authorities. In particular, the Committee will explore the FTC's role relative to emerging sectors of the economy and its jurisdiction relative to new technologies.

MISCELLANEOUS

CYBERSECURITY

The Committee will exercise its jurisdiction over cybersecurity to ensure the country is well protected while at the same time avoiding one-size-fits all approaches that hinder the flexibility of commercial and governmental actors to combat the rapidly evolving threats. The Committee will also review the efforts of agencies within its jurisdiction to secure their networks consistent with the Homeland Security Act of 2002. In doing so, the Committee will explore current cybersecurity threats and strategies to address those threats. The Committee will also examine government initiatives to improve cybersecurity both in the public and private sectors, and review efforts at agencies within the Committee's jurisdiction to regulate cybersecurity. The Committee will also examine the security of the Internet of Things, discovery and disclosure of cybersecurity vulnerabilities, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework, and the recently released report from the Presidential Commission on Enhancing Cybersecurity.

BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The Committee will continue its examination of the roles of HHS agencies in assisting the nation's detection, warning capability, and response to potential biological attacks. In addition, the Committee will evaluate the potential impact and preparedness of the nation's public health system. The Committee will continue to review the implementation of the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 by HHS, and the extent of

the coordination between HHS and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), especially as it relates to Project Bioshield.

FEDERAL OVERSIGHT OF HIGH-CONTAINMENT BIO LABORATORIES

The Committee will examine issues related to high-containment bio laboratories, which handle some of the world's most exotic and dangerous diseases, including anthrax, smallpox, foot and mouth disease, and Ebola virus. Among the issues under review are the adequacy of the security and practices of high-containment bio laboratories, Federal efforts to oversee the laboratories, and whether some of these efforts are duplicative and overlapping. The Committee will continue its oversight into issues raised by the improper storage and handling of Federal select agents at CDC, NIH, and FDA labs.

ANTI-TERRORISM SECURITY FOR CHEMICAL FACILITIES

The Committee will continue its oversight of DHS's implementation of the Chemical Facilities Anti-Terrorism Program, originally authorized in Section 550 of Public Law 109-295, the Homeland Security Appropriations Act of 2007. The Committee will continue to examine whether taxpayer funds are spent prudently and the extent to which DHS is advancing the purpose of securing chemical facilities against terrorist threats.

GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC AND RISK ASSESSMENT PROGRAMS

During the 115th Congress, the Committee will examine issues relating to the numerous Federal science programs assessing public health risks, including the Integrated Risk Information System at the EPA, the Report on Carcinogens produced by the National Toxicology Program at HHS, and assessments proposed or ongoing in other Federal departments and agencies. The Committee will review programs to assess the objectives, transparency, and integrity of scientific assessments that inform regulatory and public health policies.

CONTROLLING SPENDING

The Committee will examine Departments and agencies under its jurisdiction to assure adequate and prompt implementation of recommendations from the Administration, the Offices of Inspectors General, the Government Accountability Office, and other sources to achieve cost savings or eliminate wasteful spending.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

In June 2006, the Bush Administration issued a National Infrastructure Protection Plan. This plan created a process by which DHS is to identify critical assets and assess their vulnerabilities and risks due to loss or natural disaster. During the 115th Congress, the Committee will review the Department's activities with respect to identifying high-priority assets and implementing plans to protect these assets in areas within the Committee's jurisdiction. The Committee will also examine the activities of DOE, FERC, and other Federal agencies related the physical and cybersecurity of the nation's energy infrastructure. Further, the Committee will examine the roles and responsibilities of the private sector, which owns and operates the bulk of the nation's critical infrastructure assets.

NUCLEAR SMUGGLING

The Committee will continue to monitor Federal government and private sector efforts at border crossings, seaports, and mail facilities. The Committee's review will analyze and assess U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Energy's efforts, including international efforts, aimed at detecting and preventing the smuggling of dangerous commerce, particularly nuclear and radiological weapons of mass destruction.

AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAMS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

During the 115th Congress, as part of both its oversight and legislative agenda, the Committee on Energy and Commerce will review the authorizations of agencies and programs within its jurisdiction and, specifically with regard to lapsed authorizations, determine whether the program should be reauthorized or terminated. Each subcommittee will conduct oversight of these programs and offices, including hearings, outreach to the Executive Branch, and requests for information in order to gather the necessary information to support these determinations.

The Committee plans to dedicate considerable time in the 115th Congress to examining the policies of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)

and then developing legislation to improve health care delivery and treatment and lower costs for families. When the PPACA was enacted in 2010, it authorized dozens of individual programs. Some of these programs received indefinite, or “such sums” authorizations, and others were authorized at a specific level. Since 2010, the authorizations for most of these programs have expired; some have continued to receive appropriations while others have not. The Committee expects to consider the now-lapsed programs that the law authorized and determine which ones should be reauthorized. The Committee’s oversight of the PPACA, as described previously in this document, will necessarily inform how the Committee will advance alternative solutions to the PPACA and either the reauthorize or terminate the programs first authorized by the that law. The Committee plans to work closely with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Executive Branch when making decisions about individual programs.

In addition to examining the lapsed authorizations contained within the ACA, the Committee in the first session of the 115th Congress will work on the reauthorization of two key programs before they expire: the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), last authorized in the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 and expiring in 2017, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) User Fees, including the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) and Generic Drug User Fee Amendments (GDUFA). The reauthorization of both programs will require multiple hearings and may involve extensive negotiations.

With regard to the Committee’s jurisdiction over energy and the environment, a number of the energy and environment programs within the Committee’s jurisdiction have lapsed but continue to receive appropriations. The bulk of the lapsed programs are within the Committee’s energy jurisdiction, including the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-58) and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-140). In addition, there are various lapsed programs within the Clean Air Act; the Safe Drinking Water Act; the Toxic Substances Control Act; the Nuclear Waste Policy Act; the Solid Waste Disposal Act, also referred to as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986; the Energy Act of 2000; the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act; the Pollution Prevention Act; the Department of Energy Organization Act; and the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975. As many of the programs related to energy and environmental matters have lapsed for more than a decade, and as part of the Committee’s ongoing work to modernize

energy policy, it is an appropriate time to consider whether these programs should continue, be updated, or be terminated. The Committee plans to collect information as appropriate and to evaluate the relevant programs within the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Energy Information Administration, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Department of Homeland Security, and other relevant agencies. Such reauthorization activity will include consideration of programs in relation to current and projected U.S. economic, energy, and environmental conditions.

In addition to the reauthorization work described previously in the health, environment, and energy jurisdictions of the Committee, and as explained in the oversight plan, the Committee plans to lay the groundwork for other reauthorizations in this Congress. Within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, the oversight of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the NTIA that the Committee pursued in the 114th Congress will continue in the 115th Congress, including the examination of the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1990 and the NTIA Organization Act. Finally, within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection, the Federal Trade Commission was last reauthorized in 1996, with the authorization expiring at the end of Fiscal Year 1998. The Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection plans to conduct continued oversight of how the FTC carries out its authorities relating to unfair or deceptive acts or practices, specifically the agency's actions with respect to disruptive and technology-driven markets, innovative products, and services that benefit consumers. The purpose of this oversight work is to clarify the FTC's consumer protection authority in areas where observed harms have plagued consumers and better understand the legal and economic basis for the agency's enforcement actions.

The reauthorization work will require extensive Committee resources and member participation, particularly of the members of the Subcommittee on Health and Subcommittee on Energy. While the Committee expects that the repeal and replacement of the PPACA will be accomplished by the end of the 115th Congress, it is possible that the Committee's work to reauthorize the energy and environment-related programs and agencies will continue into the next Congress.