

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Subcommittee on Health Chairwoman Anna G. Eshoo

Hearing on “LIFT America: Revitalizing our Nation’s Infrastructure and Economy”

March 22, 2021

Over the past year our country has undergone profound changes due to COVID-19 which has laid bare a glaring shortcoming...that our nation’s public health infrastructure is outdated and unprepared for crisis.

Today’s legislation invests over \$36 billion to renovate and modernize public health departments, local hospitals, community health centers, the Indian Health Services and public health labs.

The bill rebuilds our health system after a year from hell.

As Chairwoman of the Health Subcommittee, I’m proud that the legislation counteracts our nation’s chronic underfunding of public health and closes the disparities in public health infrastructure and data systems between regions and the IHS.

I’m very pleased that two of my telecom bills are included. The Next Generation 9-1-1 Act provides \$15 billion to upgrade thousands of legacy call centers, and the Community Broadband Act protects municipal broadband which expands access to broadband and offers higher speeds at lower prices.