

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Subcommittee on Health Ranking Member Anna Eshoo

Markup of 19 Bills, Full Committee

March 24, 2023

Today, we're marking up 19 bills, with 7 of them originating from our Health Subcommittee. They aim to strengthen critical public health programs and increase access to high-quality care, including a bill I co-lead with Chairman Guthrie entitled the *Medicaid Value-Based Payments for Patients Act*. I'm very proud of the hard work we've done on this bill to support and strengthen the Biden Administration's efforts to provide patient access to lifesaving cell and gene therapies.

The *MVP Act* will be amended today to include technical assistance from the HHS Inspector General to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse in value-based payments.

I'm very pleased that we're also voting on legislation to make major changes to the organ transplant system that's been marred by errors, delays, and a lack of accountability for too long. We're one step closer today to breaking up the monopoly currently held by the United Network for Organ Sharing and giving hope to the more than 100,000 Americans awaiting organs.

We're also marking up comprehensive legislation to increase price transparency across all sectors of healthcare and lower costs, including a bill I introduced with Representatives Kuster and Carter and Chair Guthrie to level the playing field in negotiations between pharmacy benefit managers and health plan sponsors which will save the federal government \$2 billion over ten years.

Next, we're considering 4 Energy Subcommittee bills, 1 Innovation, Data and Commerce bill, and 7 bills from the Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Thankfully, we're marking up the *Spectrum Auction Reauthorization Act*, which will extend the FCC's auction authority through 2026. This is a very important bill. It also includes a bill I introduced with Congressman Hudson, the *Next Generation 9-1-1 Act*, which will help the U.S. upgrade their 9-1-1 systems to 21st Century technology.

I look forward to a productive markup. We have our hands full but that's wonderful and that's progress. Thank you and I yield back.