

## **Opening Statement for the Honorable Brett Guthrie**

### **Full Committee Markup**

**June 12, 2024**

- Thank you, Madam Chair. Today's full committee markup represents another important step to ensuring Americans receive the highest quality and most affordable health care they need.
- Today we are marking up legislation to provide greater access to life saving care for kids, access to critical telehealth services for our seniors, address critical program integrity issues in the Medicaid program, and provide access to care for vulnerable patient populations.
- I would like to thank my Health Subcommittee colleagues for advancing these bills to the full committee and for the bipartisanship on such important issues.
- I would also like to thank Representatives Miller-Meeks and Bilirakis for their bipartisan work to address program integrity issues in the Medicaid program, which will help ensure the program remains sustainable for those most in need for years to come by helping to address improper payments.
- We also have legislation, the Honor Our Living Donors Act, that will help patients in need of a transplant gain access to potential donors by making common-sense reforms to the current donation process that will make it easier for those to donate regardless of their income status.

- Last but certainly not least, is legislation that will provide greater access to telehealth services for our seniors.
- Thanks to Representatives James and Steel for leading these important bills to help seniors struggling with behavioral health care needs in addition to making telehealth more accessible to non-native English speakers.
- I know work continues on many other important priorities, including making sure we are fully offsetting continuing to provide access to telehealth in Medicare.
- Mr. Bilirakis and Ms. Eshoo continue to work on legislation to continue the important pediatric priority review voucher program and make other important changes for rare disease drug development that we heard testimony about in the subcommittee on Rare Disease Day. We look forward to working in good faith to advance this critical legislation to the floor and reauthorize this important program.
- I look forward to the discussion today on these bills and I yield back.