

CHAIR: The Committee on Energy and Commerce will come to order.

The Rules for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 119th Congress require each committee, in a meeting open to the public, to consider and adopt an Authorization and Oversight Plan.

That is why we are meeting today—to consider the Committee on Energy and Commerce’s Authorization and Oversight Plan.

Before I recognize myself for my opening statement, I want to remind Members on both sides about the importance of decorum.

Members are advised they must observe the House’s standards of decorum in debate and conduct. They must speak and act respectfully, and may not use disorderly words or unparliamentarily language.

CHAIR: The Chairman now recognizes himself for his opening statement.

Today's markup to consider the Authorization and Oversight Plan for the 119th Congress is an opportunity to reflect on our Committee's broad jurisdiction and our oversight and policy priorities.

As I emphasized in our organizational meeting, the Committee on Energy and Commerce plays a pivotal role in restoring the American Dream by unleashing American energy, lowering the cost of health care, and ensuring that America remains the world leader in technological innovation.

This plan helps provide our road map for the 119th Congress to achieve these goals.

We have already begun this effort in the beginning weeks of the Congress. By the end of the week, every subcommittee will have held its first hearing. These hearings have covered a range of priorities including energy independence, domestic

manufacturing, artificial intelligence, spectrum management, combatting illicit drugs, and easing regulatory burdens on industry.

Tomorrow, the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee will be holding its first hearing of the Congress, examining loans and grants made by the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, many of which were pushed out the door in the waning days of the Biden-Harris Administration.

The Health Subcommittee will also be holding a hearing tomorrow—its second one—examining the prescription drug supply chain, especially the role of pharmacy benefit managers.

It's already clear we have many critical issues to tackle this Congress on behalf of the American people.

That is why the Committee's oversight plan is wide-ranging and well-balanced. To be clear, this plan is not exhaustive, and there is plenty of work to do that may not be expressly stated here.

That said, the plan covers a lot of ground, again demonstrating the breadth of the Committee's jurisdiction.

As is the tradition for House Republicans, we appreciate not only the opportunity for all our Committee Members to review the Authorization and Oversight Plan, but to also be able to vote on it.

Therefore, I look forward to our discussion today. I urge a yes vote on the oversight plan. And now I recognize Ranking Member Pallone for his opening statement.