

Opening Statement of Representative Anna G. Eshoo – 1 minutes

Committee on Energy and Commerce

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

“Pathway to a Vaccine: Efforts to Develop a Safe, Effective and Accessible COVID-19 Vaccine”

July 21, 2020

Each of you represents great hope for Americans and for the world.

All eyes are on your companies to develop a vaccine that will allow us to return to school and work, hug our loved ones, and begin the process of recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

But with that opportunity comes great responsibility to ensure that your products are safe, effective, affordable and accessible.

I look forward to hearing from you today about how you will maintain transparency and accountability to the American taxpayer and American patient, how you are scaling up domestic manufacturing, your suggestions for a nationwide vaccine distribution plan, and how Congress can tackle the pervasive vaccine hesitancy in this country.

In the meantime, I call on every American to continue to do their part by wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing as much as possible. Together, we can stem the tide of this horrible disease.