Opening Statement of Representative Chris Collins Subcommittee on Health Markup on H.R. __, Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act of 2018, H.R. 959, H.R. 1676, H.R. 3728, and H.R. 5385 June 27, 2018

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I commend the efforts of this Committee and Congresswoman Susan Brooks for spearheading the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act.

In considering this legislation, I would like to address a potential safety issue related to glass breakage, cracks, and particles in glass vials as it may pose a threat to the drugs contained in glass vials.

Since December, the FDA has issued five glass recalls and the Agency has warned both healthcare providers and patients that glass particles and cracks can cause blood clots, sepsis, and other life-threatening events. As this relates to PAPHA reauthorization, this issue may affect the countermeasures currently in the stockpile. I feel it is important for those overseeing the stockpiles to be made aware of Congressional interest in ensuring that safety measures are adhered to. Perhaps we need the FDA to conduct a study to quantify the status of the current stockpile as it relates to the integrity of the glass vials.

I hope to work with the Committee and Congresswoman Brooks on ensuring America has safe, secure, and sterile countermeasures. I yield back.