

Chairman Brett Guthrie Opening Statement
Subcommittee on Health
Markup of Seven Bills
Wednesday, September 10, 2025 – 10:15AM

As prepared for delivery.

Thank you, Chairman Griffith for your leadership in advancing these important public health bills today.

The legislation that we are considering here today continues support for critical infrastructure within our public health system, including education and training of health care professionals, telehealth resource centers, rural outreach programs, and programs related to screening newborns for inheritable diseases.

The health care workforce shortage is a multifaceted issue and is particularly prevalent in rural areas like in my district in Kentucky. We must ensure that grant programs designed to address this issue are properly targeted and that federal dollars are reaching the communities that need it most.

H.R. 2493, led by my good friend Mr. Carter of Georgia, presents an opportunity to continue support for rural health infrastructure and increase access to care in these areas.

Additionally, patients in areas with less access to health care services can often utilize telehealth to reach medical professionals in a timely and efficient manner. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, 96 percent of HRSA-funded health centers used telehealth to provide primary care services in 2023. H.R. 3419 would reauthorize the telehealth network and resource center programs, which has proven to be a vital component to health care delivery in rural areas.

Ultimately, by extending these programs, we are working to stabilize and strengthen our public health workforce that supports the health of our fellow Americans. I'm looking forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in a bipartisan manner to address these issues.

Thank you and I yield back.