

Chairman Brett Guthrie Opening Statement
Subcommittee on Health
Lowering Health Care Costs for All Americans: An Examination of the
Prescription Drug Supply Chain
Wednesday, February 11, 2026 – 10:15AM

As prepared for delivery.

Thank you, Chairman Griffith. And thank you to all of the witnesses for being here today to examine the U.S. prescription drug supply chain.

From the discovery of a molecule to the dispensing of a drug, the prescription drug supply chain is a complicated web of financial and logistical transactions.

In 2017, the Committee held a very similar drug supply chain hearing, which led to Congress passing and President Trump signing into law the most consequential and comprehensive PBM reform legislation in history, just last week.

These policies will improve prescription drug affordability for all Americans.

Historic PBM reform is just the beginning, and more needs to be done throughout the drug supply chain to improve affordability for all Americans.

Since our hearing in 2017, the prescription drug supply chain has evolved in many ways.

We have seen significant vertical integration—not just among the largest PBMs, but also on the part of the wholesalers, who now own and operate provider groups, pharmacy services administrative organizations, GPOs, pharmacies, and white label manufacturers.

We have also seen shifts in pharmaceutical contracting and revenue generation, from PBMs accruing a major portion of their profits in fees charged to payers and manufacturers, to payers working with broker consultants and often demanding “rebate guarantees” as a part of their pharmaceutical benefit management contracts, which may impact behavior and incentives up and down the supply chain.

We have also seen major changes in federal policy. The Democrats’ Inflation Reduction Act has destabilized the Medicare Part D marketplace to such a degree that the Biden Administration had to divert billions of taxpayer dollars to just temporarily keep the market afloat.

On the other hand, just last week President Trump launched TrumpRx—a new platform designed to help patients find the lowest possible direct to consumer cash price for some of the most common medicines Americans shop for outside of their insurance.

I look forward to examining all of these issues across each part of the prescription supply chain and learning more about what more we can do to make our health care system more affordable for patients across the country.

I thank the witnesses for their participation and look forward to today’s discussion. I yield back.