

Opening Statement of Chairman Brett Guthrie
Subcommittee on Health
“Examining Legislative Proposals to Reform Medicare Provider Payment and
Bolster Health Care Cybersecurity”
Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. (ET)
As Prepared for Delivery

Good morning, and thank you, Chairman Griffith, for holding a hearing on these critical topics.

I’ll be brief, as the Committee has already done extensive work examining the provider landscape and subsequent payment reform. Earlier this year, we heard from witnesses as part of our Affordability Series, followed by a hearing this spring focused on Medicare physician payment reforms.

Today, we will build on that work by considering a range of legislative proposals aimed at strengthening the ability of our nation’s providers to deliver enhanced care for Americans.

Additionally, we are considering two pieces of legislation to address cybersecurity threats in the public and private health sectors, which pose serious risks to patient safety and privacy.

H.R. 9908, the *Rural Hospital Cybersecurity Enhancement Act*, led by my colleagues Representatives Houchin and Schrier, would support rural hospitals’ critical cybersecurity infrastructure by requiring HHS to establish a comprehensive

workforce development strategy that addresses the need for cybersecurity professionals in rural hospitals. The bill also requires HHS to publicly publish materials for rural hospitals to train their staff.

Similarly, the *Health Care Cybersecurity and Resiliency Act of 2026* would expand resources for preventing and responding to cybersecurity incidents across the health care system and require health care providers and plans to include the number of individuals affected when notifying them of a breach.

I thank all the witnesses for being here today and look forward to your testimony.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.