The hearing will come to order.

Welcome everyone and good afternoon.

I am very pleased to have this hearing and allow Members to present testimony on their thoughts and priorities for the fiscal year 2020 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill.

As I remind people all the time, the work of this subcommittee is far reaching and touches the lives of every citizen and millions abroad through our international food delivery programs. Everything from research to conservation to food safety to domestic and foreign nutrition to food and drug safety to commodity futures!

So, this subcommittee has a lot to consider moving forward. We are still at the beginning of the process, but this is an important day as we hear from our colleagues.

Testifying today, we have an equal number of members from each party that represent different parts of the country. This subcommittee has a reputation for working across the aisle and I expect that bipartisan spirit to continue this year.

I look forward to hearing from them today and working with them as the process moves forward.