

**Subcommittee Markup of the Reauthorization of the Pandemic and All-Hazards
Preparedness Act
Opening Statement
June 27, 2018**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

I thank you for holding this subcommittee markup as we move forward with the reauthorization of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act otherwise known as PAHPA. I'm proud to be working on this important bill with my good friend Rep. Anna Eshoo who was one of the authors of the first PAHPA bill in 2006 as well as a lead author of the last reauthorization in 2013.

As we heard during testimony at the hearing, we face threats around the globe.

On May 8, the Democratic Republic of Congo declared an outbreak of Ebola. This is the country's ninth Ebola outbreak in 40 years, and while previous outbreaks have been in remote and isolated areas this new outbreak is in a busy port city with more than one million inhabitants.

On May 20, India's government confirmed outbreak of the deadly Nipah virus. By the end of May, 19 cases of Nipah had been reported, 17 of which were fatal.

The bill we are considering today creates a Public Health Emergency Response Fund for the Secretary to use as a bridge when we face an outbreak like Ebola or Nipah virus so that immediate funding is available that we can then supplement with an emergency appropriations bill. It also establishes a Pandemic Influenza Program as well as an Emerging Infectious Diseases Program at BARDA to deal with known and unknown threats.

PAHPA reauthorization is a unique opportunity to examine our response to threats, and ensure that as we look towards the future, we have the procedures, resources and support in place to protect ourselves. I look forward to continuing to work with all of the Members of this Committee on this bipartisan effort and I yield back.