

Chairman Brett Guthrie
Opening Statement—Full Committee Markup
September 17, 2025

As prepared for delivery

Thank you all for being here today as we examine critical, and bipartisan, legislation. First, we will consider important legislation that extends vital programs that support our nation's public health. Patients in rural areas often face unique challenges with the health care system. This includes long travel times, increased waitlists, and a shortage of specialized health care providers. H.R. 2493, led by my good friend Mr. Carter of Georgia, would reauthorize the rural health care services outreach and rural health network development programs, which are aimed at increasing access to care in these areas.

Additionally, patients across the country have benefitted from increased access to telehealth services. H.R. 3419 would reauthorize the telehealth network and resource center programs.

We also will be considering H.R. 1262, the Give Kids a Chance Act, led by Rep. McCaul, and H.R.1843, Increasing

Transparency in Generic Drug Applications Act, led by Rep. Dunn.

The Give Kids a Chance Act of 2025 builds on current programs to accelerate research and drug development for rare pediatric diseases, including cancer. One important part of this legislation is the reauthorization of the rare pediatric disease priority review voucher, or “PRV.” This program provides a critical incentive for companies to develop treatments and cures. Since 2012, the program has proven successful, leading to over 50 new treatment approvals for nearly 40 different rare pediatric diseases, many of which had no options prior.

I am very pleased we are finally providing certainty to this critical program – and the patients it benefits. In addition, we are considering H.R. 1843, which would increase access to generic drugs by eliminating bureaucratic hurdles and increasing transparency during the drug approval process.

Both of these bills were considered last Congress in a bipartisan fashion, and I look forward to that continued support today.

We also will be considering the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act of 2025, which requires automakers to include AM broadcast radio as standard equipment in their vehicles. AM broadcast radio is an important component for vehicles, especially in rural areas, as it is the most reliable medium for emergency alerts. I want to thank Chairman Bilirakis and Ranking Member Pallone for their bipartisan efforts on this legislation, which is cosponsored by 37 Members of this Committee and nearly 300 of our colleagues in the full House.

I appreciate the hard work of Members and staff on both sides of the aisle for their work on all of these bipartisan bills.

Thank you, and I yield back.