

**Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery**  
**of**  
**Subcommittee on Health Ranking Member Anna Eshoo**  
  
*Markup of 15 Health Care Bills, Full Committee*  
  
**July 19, 2023**

Good morning. Today we're marking up 15 bills.

Seven of the bills are bipartisan policies that continue successful programs, including my PREEMIE Act which aims to reduce premature births.

We also are voting on a bipartisan reauthorization of the SUPPORT Act to continue addressing the deadly scourge of the opioid epidemic by increasing access to prevention, treatment, and recovery for patients with substance use disorder. Urgent action is needed because we lose about 300 American lives every day from a drug overdose.

I'm still disappointed that we have not reached a bipartisan agreement on the Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) reauthorization.

The current product is a disjointed package of underfunded health programs that do not meet our nation's needs and will leave us unprepared for the next public health emergency. Most striking is that the bill does nothing to address the health emergency our nation is currently facing – the shortage of critical cancer drugs.

It doesn't need to be this way. The Senate HELP Committee demonstrated yesterday that bipartisan compromise that includes both Democratic and Republican priorities is possible.

Lastly, we are also voting today on legislation that will damage the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education program irreparably by banning care for trans children.

For nearly 25 years, a quarter of a century, the CHGME Program has trained half of general pediatricians and a majority of pediatric specialists in our country. It's difficult for me to comprehend why my Republican colleagues are bringing up a cruel bill that will hurt children, hurt families, and exacerbate the ongoing shortage of pediatricians in rural and underserved areas, so many of them represented by my Republican colleagues.

Today's markup has, it's an old saying, the good, the bad, and the ugly – with the anti-trans bill, in my view, being the ugliest and the cruelest. I hope my colleagues will come to their senses and move a clean bill to reauthorize CHGME as soon as possible. Thank you and I yield back.