

**Opening Statement**  
**Rep. Jan Schakowsky**  
**House Energy and Commerce Committee**  
**Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade**  
**Markup of H.R. 985, the Concrete Masonry Products, Research,**  
**Education, and Promotion Act; H.R.\_\_\_\_, the Child Nicotine**  
**Poisoning Prevention Act; and H.R.\_\_\_\_, the E-Warranty Act**  
**July 23, 2015**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for holding today's markup of three very different but important pieces of legislation. I am glad that we have gotten to a point where each of these bills will receive broad bipartisan support.

Two weeks ago, we held a hearing on H.R. 985, the Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education, and Promotion Act. As I said then, I have heard from contractors, workers, and my colleagues about the importance of a concrete masonry checkoff program.

I want to promote all of the benefits of a concrete masonry checkoff while avoiding the pitfalls we've seen in earlier checkoff programs such as PERC and NORA. With the changes in the manager's amendment, we can better ensure that this program is effective in terms of both management and oversight. I thank Rep. Guthrie, Rep. Castor, and others who have fought for this bill for their willingness to incorporate those changes.

We will also consider a discussion draft of the Child Nicotine Poisoning Prevention Act, a bill to improve the safety of liquid nicotine packages. This would create an important safeguard for children, who are most at-risk of ingesting liquid nicotine packages that can poison and even kill. I thank Rep. Elizabeth Esty for her leadership on this issue.

It is important that this bill doesn't undermine any other protections being considered regarding liquid nicotine packaging. I

appreciate the majority's willingness to include language that clarifies the authority of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Food and Drug Administration to act in this area.

The last bill we will mark up is the E-Warranty Act – legislation to provide consumers with online access to product warranties. This legislation would bring warranties into the 21st century. Recognizing that an estimated one in seven Americans are still without regular Internet access, the rulemaking established by this bill will ensure that consumers can also get warranties in paper form when they purchase a product.

I thank the Chairman for holding this markup, and I look forward to sending these bills to the full Committee for consideration.