

Energy and Commerce Member Day Testimony:

Madam Chair, thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Energy and Commerce committee to discuss the issues facing my community.

In my district, receiving medical care can be a challenge. Many specialists and facilities do not exist on Guam, compelling my constituents to often seek out medical care in the Philippines. To enable more unencumbered access to medical care in the Philippines I have been drafting legislation to enable portability of Medicare benefits to the Philippines. This legislation would allow Americans living in Guam and the Philippines with more options and improved access to high quality healthcare. VA benefits, Tricare, and Social Security benefits are all available to Americans living in the Philippines, and I believe that adding Medicare to this list would save taxpayers money due to the lower cost of healthcare in the Philippines.

Another issue facing my district is the resiliency of our power grid. Although reliable access to power for my constituents is top of mind for me, this issue is a matter of national security as the military is Guam Power Authority's largest customer. With the increasing regularity and intensity of typhoons; undergrounding power lines and building a hardened grid on Guam makes America stronger in the Pacific. As I work to strengthen the power grid on Guam I look forward to working with the committee, seeking waivers for NDAA language, and moving other legislation related to the Guam power grid.

Thank you and I yield back.