

### U.S. House Committee on Energy & Commerce

Full Committee: Markup

April 29, 2025, 10:00 AM ET, 2123 Rayburn House Office Building

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this markup session was for the Energy and Commerce Committee to consider and discuss six healthcare-related bills.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Guthrie, Ranking Member Pallone, Reps. Latta, Griffith, Bilirakis, Hudson, Carter, Palmer, Dunn, Crenshaw, Joyce, Weber, Allen, Balderson, Fulcher, Pfluger, Harshbarger, Miller-Meeks, Cammack, Obernolte, James, Bentz, Houchin, Fry, Lee, Langworthy, Kean, Rulli, Evans, Goldman, Fedorchak, DeGette, Schakowsky, Matsui, Castor, Tonko, Clarke, Ruiz, Peters, Dingell, Veasey, Kelly, Barragan, Soto, Schrier, Trahan, Fletcher, Ocasio-Cortez, Auchincloss, Carter, Menendez, Mullin, Landsman, and McClellan.

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- All 6 bills advanced out of the Energy and Commerce Committee.
- H.R. 2483, SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025
  - H.R. 2483, as amended, passed with 36 ayes and 13 nays. All Republican members voted yea. Reps. Ruiz, Peters, Barragan, Soto, Schrier, Trahan, Auchincloss, Carter, Landsman, McClellan, and Dingell joined Republicans in voting yea.
- H.R. 1520, Charlotte Woodward Organ Transplant Discrimination Prevention Act
  - H.R. 1520 passed with 46 ayes and 1 nay. Rep. Clarke was the only member to vote against the bill.
- H.R. 2319, Women and Lung Cancer Research and Preventive Services Act of 2025
  - The bill passed unanimously.
- H.R. 1669, To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and Wellness Training Program
  - The bill passed unanimously.
- H.R. 1082, Shandra Eisenga Human Cell and Tissue Product Safety Act
  - The bill passed unanimously.
- H.R. 2484, Seniors' Access to Critical Medications Act
  - H.R. 2484 passed with 38 ayes and 7 nays, along party lines with Democratic Reps. Degette, Ruiz, Peters, Veasey, Soto, Schrier, Trahan, Fletcher, Mullin, Landsman, and McClellan joining all Republicans in voting aye.

For more information about the bills and amendments, view the **Committee Repository**.

#### **OPENING STATEMENTS**

#### Chair Guthrie (R-KY) stated (19 min.)

- This legislation safeguards seniors' access to care.
- Last Congress, each of these six bills advanced out of committee with strong bipartisan support.
- The SUPPORT Act has received widespread support from organizations including patient and provider advocacy groups.
- The <u>Charlotte Woodward Organ Transplant Discrimination Prevention Act</u> ensures access to lifesaving care by preventing discrimination against those with disabilities.
- H.R. 2319 aims to accelerate research and address rising rates of lung cancer.
- Grateful to all my colleagues for supporting these pieces of legislation.

#### Ranking Member Pallone (D-NJ) stated (25 min.)

- Committee Republicans are moving these bills as though these are normal times, but they are not normal times.
- A few weeks ago, the Trump administration fired hundreds from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and is also cutting block grants that help combat the drug overdose crisis.
- Republicans are silently standing by as the administration slashes mental health funding.
- Some states will not be able to fill the funding gap, providers will go unpaid, and Americans will suffer. Additionally, this will have disastrous consequences for those struggling with substance use disorder (SUD).
- It is Congress' job to ensure the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) can continue their critical work and that programs are not being arbitrarily slashed.
- I cannot support the reauthorization of the <u>SUPPORT Act</u> because I have no confidence my Republican colleagues will stand up to President Trump.
- Congressional Republicans are willing to overlook just about anything and Reports suggest that Republicans want to codify these cuts.
- Republicans are moving the SUPPORT Act while planning to cut Medicaid for tax cuts for corporations.
- Millions of Americans will be left without lifesaving care.

#### Rep. Tonko (D-NY) stated (25 min.)

- As of this month, we have lost 50% of SAMHSA staff, and we only have confirmation from the press.
- Currently, we have not received answers from HHS about who exactly has been cut and from what department.
- As a member of the Energy and Commerce committee, a committee with jurisdiction over SAMHSA, it is unacceptable that we do not have answers to these questions.

- On behalf of all Americans, I want to thank all SAMHSA employees for their dedication to public service.
- The recent actions of the Trump admin are betraying those struggling with mental health disorders and SUD.
- Republicans are attempting to pat themselves on the back by advancing this legislation while allowing these draconian cuts to happen.
- I am going to vote no, and I ask my Republican colleagues to pause today's markup and focus on more urgent matters

## H.R. 2483, SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES' REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025

#### **TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

<u>H.R. 2483</u> seeks to reauthorize certain programs that provide for opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery.

#### **DISCUSSION** (29 min.)

Chair Guthrie introduced an amendment in the nature of a substitution (AINS) that makes technical changes to the underlying bill. He said that SUDs create an imminent need for patients and this bill would reauthorize essential public health programs for those with SUD. He added that the stories of these patients matter, and that he is proud of the bipartisan work that went into crafting this legislation that would expand treatment options and increase access to care. He added that he is glad bipartisan efforts will bring much needed support for those fighting this epidemic, but that they need to continue helping those struggling with SUD and its related troubles.

Ranking Member Pallone said that they cannot support moving this bill while the administration continues to gut SAMHSA. He said that the Trump administration intends to cut comprehensive opioid recovery centers and asked what they were going to do to ensure that these programs are protected. Chair Guthrie said if the administration presents a way to do this more efficiently, they will listen. He said they will use their oversight to make sure changes are done efficiently. Ranking Member Pallone asked if that was a commitment to having a hearing with the Secretary since Republicans talk about how they want to address this. He added that he would expect all to have a hearing and ask the Secretary about SAMHSA funds. Chair Guthrie said that they expect him to testify. Ranking Member Pallone asked if the President was allowed to cut programs like that and Chair Guthrie said that their work is to put this into law and to have oversight. Chair Guthrie added that his commitment is to have the things in this bill implemented. Ranking Member Pallone said what the President is doing is cutting these programs the way Congress has provided for, which he does not have authority to do. He added that Congress, as a coequal branch, needs to conduct oversight about whether these actions are lawful. Ranking Member Pallone asked his Republican colleagues to support the amendments proposed today related to the administration since all of these actions done by the administration are illegal. He added that he will continue asking for their support.



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