

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for delivery
of
Subcommittee on Energy Chairman Bobby L. Rush

Markup of 24 Bills

September 21, 2022

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good morning, everyone. I want to start by recognizing the excellent work that Chairs Eshoo and Schakowsky have done in pulling together a number of excellent, bipartisan bills from the Health and Consumer Protection Subcommittees that deserve our support.

I also want to especially thank Chair Eshoo for advancing a bill that would re-authorize the Flint Water Registry that has helped so many residents of Flint, Michigan that were hurt by the horrendous lead poisoning crisis that plagued that city. My hometown of Chicago has the most lead pipes in the country, and those of us from the area know better than anyone the harms that lead-poisoned water can inflict upon a community. I look forward to supporting that bill in today's markup.

Unfortunately, Mr. Chairman, these bills represent only six of the measures that we are voting on here today. We also have before us 18 Resolutions of Inquiry. These resolutions are, for the most part, not genuine attempts at exercising the House's oversight powers but, instead, are partisan political ploys by our friends on the other side of the aisle.

They cover topics as unserious as ivermectin, a bogus COVID-cure, to unsubstantiated conspiracies around a so-called "radical climate agenda".

Frankly, I am disappointed. During my years on this Committee, and as Chair of the Energy Subcommittee, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with my Republican colleagues on serious, thoughtful, and bipartisan ideas.

Unfortunately, the majority of the resolutions they have brought before us today are not serious, are not thoughtful, and are certainly not bipartisan. We must, therefore, treat these resolutions with the seriousness and respect they are due.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.