

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Markup of H.R. 4299, H.R. 4709, H.R. 4631, H.R. 4795, and H.R. 4801
June 9, 2014**

(As Prepared for Delivery)

The bills we will consider this week continue our efforts to create jobs, build the architecture of abundance, improve public health, and modernize government for the innovation era.

First, we will consider H.R. 4795, the Promoting New Manufacturing Act, which is a simple process and transparency bill for EPA with an eye toward future job creation. It seeks to remove unnecessary uncertainty in the permitting of new manufacturing projects, thereby facilitating an American manufacturing renaissance.

A recent Goldman Sachs report noted the vast potential of our newfound energy abundance, but added that permitting delays and regulatory uncertainty are stalling the downstream investments in energy infrastructure and energy-intensive manufacturing. Without this architecture of abundance in place, many of the benefits of our domestic energy supply will be squandered. But with it, America can capitalize on both the upstream and downstream opportunities for economic and job growth.

That is where the Promoting New Manufacturing Act comes in. Its key provision requires that the necessary implementing regulations and guidance be made available when a new air quality standard takes effect. In other words, the bill places a reasonable obligation on EPA to do its job so that companies applying for permits can do theirs. The result would be fewer delays for job-creating projects and faster adoption of new air quality standards. Let me emphasize again that no substantive environmental provisions are being changed - the only thing that changes is the speed by which new standards are implemented. I would like to thank Steve Scalise for his sponsorship of H.R. 4795 and urge all of my colleagues to support this job-creating measure.

We will also build on our bipartisan energy efficiency successes by considering a bill authored by Representatives Adam Kinzinger and Jerry McNerney that will identify cost-effective opportunities for federal agencies to use energy and water more efficiently. The House has had success in promoting energy efficiency, and it is my hope our approach will be embraced by Harry Reid and the Senate as a path forward to tangible results in advancing efficiency as part of our all-of-the-above efforts.

The committee will also consider a package of health bills that demonstrate the continued bipartisan accomplishments of the Health Subcommittee and their efforts to come together to improve the public health and safety of all Americans.

H.R. 4299, the Improving Regulatory Transparency for New Medical Therapies Act, was introduced by Chairman Pitts and Mr. Pallone. Currently, for a new drug that could be abused, there is no deadline for the DEA to make a scheduling decision after receiving FDA's recommendation. The delays in DEA's decisions have increased significantly in recent years. This bill would fix the problem by providing more predictability and clarity around the DEA's review of scheduling decisions for these products.

H.R. 4069, the Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act, was introduced by Representative Marino, Vice Chairman Blackburn, Representative Welch, and Representative Chu. The bill would help us in our fight against the prescription drug abuse crisis by establishing a collaborative and coordinated approach among government agencies and stakeholders.

H.R. 4631, introduced by Representative Chris Smith and Representative Doyle, would continue autism-related research, early identification and intervention, education, and the activities of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee. It is important that we continue to support those with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families by supporting Autism research and passing H.R. 4631. We have been

working closely with the Senate, and we will have an amendment to the bill that reflects our continuing work on this important legislation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support these commonsense energy and health bills.

###