

ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
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**Statement of Rep. Henry A. Waxman**  
**Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**Markup on H.R. 1582, H.R. 1900, H.R. 83, H.R. 2094, H.R. 698, and H.R. 2052**  
**Full Committee**  
**July 16, 2013**

Today, we will be marking up several bills. Some are good bills with bipartisan support. Others are partisan messaging bills that will not become law.

Mr. Pompeo's bill, H.R. 1900, seeks to speed up the approval of interstate natural gas pipelines. The bill aims to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

GAO has concluded that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) pipeline permitting is predictable and consistent and gets pipelines built. Last week, the pipeline companies testified that the process "is generally very good."

Nevertheless, H.R. 1900 would disrupt this functioning permitting process by arbitrarily limiting the time that FERC and other agencies have to review pipeline applications.

When faced with these time limits, one of two things will happen. Either agencies will approve permits that do not comply with our nation's health, safety, and environment laws, or they will deny permits when the time limits prevent them from completing legally mandated pipeline reviews.

With this bill, we will get rushed decisions and probably more project denials. No one benefits from that, not even the pipeline companies.

Mr. Cassidy's bill, H.R. 1582, is even worse. The bill gives the Department of Energy a veto over EPA's air and water pollution rules.

Last Congress, the House voted 145 times to block EPA rules and standards. The House voted to block EPA regulation of mercury and other toxic pollutants from power plants and incinerators.

The House voted to strip EPA of authority to set water quality standards. And the House voted to overturn EPA's scientific finding that carbon pollution endangers health and the environment.

None of these assaults on EPA was enacted. They all died in the Senate. So today, the majority is trying a new approach: give another agency veto power over EPA rules.

This bill is a terrible precedent. If we give DOE a veto over EPA, where do we stop? Are we next going to give the Commerce Department a veto over the Department of State or the CDC a veto over the FDA?

This bill is a recipe for making the federal agencies as dysfunctional as Congress has become. No one should want that.

In contrast, Congresswoman Christensen's bill, H.R. 83, is precisely the kind of legislation we should be working on. The bill enhances energy security and expands renewable energy generation. It is a win for the island states and U.S. territories that it will assist. I urge support for the bill.

I also urge support for the two public health measures before the Committee today: H.R. 2094, the School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act, sponsored by Congressman Roe and Congressman Hoyer, and H.R. 698, the HIV Organ Equity Act, introduced by Congresswoman Capps. H.R. 2094 provides for an additional preference in an existing state grant program to allow trained school personnel to administer an "EpiPen" to students believed to be having an anaphylactic or allergic reaction. H.R. 698 directs the federal Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to allow the transplantation of human organs infected with HIV, but only into individuals already infected with the HIV virus. Both of these bills enjoy bipartisan support and I know of no opposition to either.

Finally, I support passage of H.R. 2052, the Global Investment in American Jobs Act as forwarded by the Subcommittee. Ms. Schakowsky has worked with Mr. Terry to ensure that while we encourage foreign direct investment, we do not weaken labor, consumer, financial, or environmental protections.