

REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND
PENSIONS

UNITED STATES SENATE

DURING THE

118TH CONGRESS

2023–2024

PURSUANT TO

SECTION 136 OF THE LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION ACT OF
1946, AS AMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION ACT
OF 1970



JUNE 17, 2025.—Ordered to be printed

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

59–010

WASHINGTON : 2025

[118TH CONGRESS]

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

BERNIE SANDERS (I), Vermont, *Chairman*

PATTY MURRAY, Washington	BILL CASSIDY, M.D., Louisiana,
ROBERT P. CASEY, JR., Pennsylvania	<i>Ranking Member</i>
TAMMY BALDWIN, Wisconsin	RAND PAUL, M.D., Kentucky
CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY, Connecticut	SUSAN M. COLLINS, Maine
TIM Kaine, Virginia	LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
MAGGIE HASSAN, New Hampshire	MIKE BRAUN, Indiana
TINA SMITH, Minnesota	ROGER MARSHALL, M.D., Kansas
BEN RAY LUJAN, New Mexico	MITT ROMNEY, Utah
JOHN HICKENLOOPER, Colorado	TOMMY TUBERVILLE, Alabama
ED MARKEY, Massachusetts	MARKWAYNE MULLIN, Oklahoma
	TEDD BUDD, North Carolina

WARREN GUNNELS, *Democrat Staff Director*

AMANDA LINCOLN, *Republican Staff Director*

[119TH CONGRESS]

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

BILL CASSIDY, M.D., Louisiana, *Chairman*

RAND PAUL, M.D., Kentucky	BERNIE SANDERS (I), Vermont,
SUSAN M. COLLINS, Maine	<i>Ranking Member</i>
LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska	PATTY MURRAY, Washington
MARKWAYNE MULLIN, Oklahoma	TAMMY BALDWIN, Wisconsin
ROGER MARSHALL, M.D., Kansas	CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY, Connecticut
TIM SCOTT, South Carolina	TIM Kaine, Virginia
JOSH HAWLEY, Missouri	MAGGIE HASSAN, New Hampshire
TOMMY TUBERVILLE, Alabama	JOHN HICKENLOOPER, Colorado
JIM BANKS, Indiana	ED MARKEY, Massachusetts
JON HUSTED, Ohio	ANDY KIM, New Jersey
ASHLEY MOODY, Florida	LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER, Delaware
	ANGELA ALSOBROOKS, Maryland

MATTHEW GALLIVAN, *Republican Staff Director*

WARREN GUNNELS, *Democrat Staff Director*

FOREWORD

This report on the legislative activities of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions during the 118th Congress is submitted pursuant to section 136 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 190d), as amended by Public Laws 91-050, 92-136, and 93-334. The Legislative Reorganization Act requires standing committees of the U.S. Senate to “review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, and execution” of laws within their jurisdiction and to submit biennial reports to the Congress. The full text of section 136 is as follows:

Sec. 136.(a) In order to assist the Congress—

(1) its analysis, appraisal, and evaluation of the application, administration, and execution of the laws enacted by Congress, and

(2) its formulation, consideration and enactment of such modifications of or changes in those laws, and of such additional legislation, as may be necessary or appropriate, each standing committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, and execution of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of that committee. Such committees may carry out the required analysis, appraisal, and evaluation themselves, or by contract, or may require a government agency to do so and furnish a report thereon to the Congress. Such committees may rely on such techniques as pilot testing, analysis of costs in comparison with benefits, or provision for evaluation after a defined period of time.

(b) In each odd-numbered year beginning on or after January 1, 1973, each standing committee of the Senate shall submit, not later than March 31, to the Senate . . . a report on the activities of that committee under this section during the Congress ending at noon on January 3 of such year.

(c) The preceding provisions of this section do not apply to the Committees on Appropriations, the Budget, House Administration, Rules, and Standards of Official Conduct of the House.

BERNIE SANDERS, *Chair*.

CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	III
Committee jurisdiction	1
Committee organization	2
Review of Legislative activity	3
Full Committee activities	3
I. Bills Enacted into Law:	
A. Health	3
B. Families	6
C. Native Americans	6
II. Vetoed Legislation	7
III. Reported Bills Not Enacted:	
A. Health	7
B. Education	12
C. Labor and Employment	12
IV. Other Bills Considered by Senate:	
A. Health	14
B. Education	16
C. Labor and Employment	19
V. List of Public Laws	20
VI. List of Full Committee and Subcommittee hearings	22
VII. Anticipated activities	24
Committee printing	25

APPENDIX

I. Reports of the Committee and Subcommittees on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:	
A. Full Committee	26
B. Children and Families	26
C. Employment and Workplace Safety	26
D. Primary Health and Retirement Security	26
II. Public Laws enacted during the 118th Congress	26
III. Hearings by Full Committee and Subcommittees:	
Full Committee	27
Nominations	32
Department of Labor	32
National Institutes of Health	32
Subcommittee on Children and Families	32
Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety	32
Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security	33
IV. Statistical Summary	34
V. Rules of Procedure	35

REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

JUNE 17, 2025.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. CASSIDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[Pursuant to section 136 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, as amended]

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee in the 118th Congress was set forth in paragraph 1.(1) of Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate as follows:

(1) Committee on Labor and Human Resources, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Measures relating to education, labor, health, and public welfare.
2. Aging.
3. Agricultural colleges.
4. Arts and humanities.
5. Biomedical research and development.
6. Child labor.
7. Convict labor and the entry of goods made by convicts into interstate commerce.
8. Domestic activities of the American National Red Cross.
9. Equal employment opportunity.
10. Gallaudet College, Howard University, and Saint Elizabeths Hospital.
11. Handicapped individuals.
12. Labor standards and labor statistics.
13. Mediation and arbitration of labor disputes.

14. Occupational safety and health, including the welfare of miners.
15. Private pension plans.
16. Public health.
17. Railway labor and retirement.
18. Regulation of foreign laborers.
19. Student loans.
20. Wages and hours of labor.

(2) Such committee shall also study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to health, education and training, and public welfare, and report thereon from time to time.

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION*

During the 118th Congress, the Committee was organized into the following subcommittees:

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Mr. Casey, *Chairman*

Mrs. Murray	Mr. Tuberville, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Mr. Murphy	Mr. Paul
Mr. Kaine	Ms. Murkowski
Ms. Hassan	Mr. Romney
Ms. Smith	Mr. Mullin
Mr. Sanders (<i>ex officio</i>)	Mr. Cassidy (<i>ex officio</i>)

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE SAFETY

Mr. Hickenlooper, *Chairman*

Mr. Casey	Mr. Braun, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Ms. Baldwin	Mr. Marshall
Mr. Kaine	Mr. Romney
Mr. Luján	Mr. Tuberville
Mr. Markey	Mr. Budd
Mr. Sanders (<i>ex officio</i>)	Mr. Cassidy (<i>ex officio</i>)

PRIMARY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT SECURITY

Mr. Markey, *Chairman*

Mrs. Murray	Mr. Marshall, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Ms. Baldwin	Mr. Paul
Mr. Murphy	Ms. Collins
Ms. Hassan	Ms. Murkowski
Ms. Smith	Mr. Braun
Mr. Luján	Mr. Mullin
Mr. Hickenlooper	Mr. Budd
Mr. Sanders (<i>ex officio</i>)	Mr. Cassidy (<i>ex officio</i>)

(* Note.—The Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member are *ex officio* of the subcommittee they do not serve on.)

REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions has jurisdiction over approximately 1,000 Federal programs relating to health, education, disability policy, children and families, older Americans, pensions, labor, and public welfare. These programs are administered by the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Labor, and over a hundred independent agencies, councils, and bureaus.

During the 118th Congress, which convened on January 3, 2024 and adjourned on January 3, 2025, 1,027 bills and resolutions were referred to the Committee for its consideration, reflecting the substantial interest in issues within the Committee's jurisdiction. The Committee and its subcommittees held 40 hearings, and produced 12 public laws, covering Native Americans, families, and the majority of which, came within the area of health care.

FULL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

In addition to the legislation referred to the Committee, 32 nominations were received by the Committee during the 118th Congress, 24 were reported and 15 were confirmed by the Senate. The Committee held 2 hearings for nominations.

The committee reported 56 bills and 12 resolutions to the Senate, and 12 measures within its jurisdiction were enacted into law.

The committee and its subcommittees held 40 days of public hearings and held 26 executive sessions for the purpose of considering legislation and nominations. There were no conferences held with the House of Representatives.

I. BILLS APPROVED FROM THE HELP COMMITTEE ENACTED INTO LAW IN THE 118TH CONGRESS

A. Health

DR. EMMANUEL BILIRAKIS AND HONORABLE JENNIFER WEXTON
NATIONAL PLAN TO END PARKINSON'S ACT

[Public Law 118-66, [enacted July 2, 2024]]

This act requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to carry out a project to address Parkinson's disease (a progressive brain disorder that causes unintended or uncontrollable movements) and related conditions.

Among other components of the project, HHS must (1) implement and periodically update a national plan to coordinate and guide efforts to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure the disease; and (2) improve the care of those with the disease. HHS must also annually assess the preparations for and response to the increased burden of Parkinson's disease.

In addition, the act establishes a council, comprised of federal and nonfederal stakeholders, to advise HHS on and make recommendations concerning the prevention and treatment of Parkinson's disease.

The provisions of the act terminate at the end of calendar year 2035.

SIREN REAUTHORIZATION ACT
(Short Title as Passed Senate)

[Public Law 118–84, [enacted September 26, 2024]]

This act reauthorizes through FY2028 and otherwise modifies a grant program for improving emergency medical services (EMS) in rural areas. The modifications include requiring the use of grant funds to train EMS personnel on caring for individuals with mental health and substance use disorders in emergency situations and permitting the use of grant funds to acquire overdose reversal drugs and devices.

POISON CONTROL CENTERS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024
(Short Title as Passed Senate)

[Public Law 118–86, [enacted September 26, 2024]]

This act reauthorizes through FY2029 several poison control center resources and services.

Specifically, the act reauthorizes (1) the national poison control center help line (i.e., the Poison Help line), (2) a national media campaign to educate the public and health care providers about the help line and other resources, and (3) a grant program to support the ability of poison control centers to provide services.

NAPA REAUTHORIZATION ACT
(Short Title as Passed Senate)

[Public Law 118–92, [enacted October 1, 2024]]

This act extends through 2035 and makes other changes to the National Alzheimer’s Project. This project supports coordination of federal planning, programs, and other efforts to address Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.

In particular, the act incorporates a focus on promoting healthy aging and reducing risk factors associated with cognitive decline.

The act also expands the Advisory Council on Alzheimer’s Research, Care, and Services to include additional members, such as (1) a researcher with experience recruiting and retaining diverse clinical trial participants, (2) an individual diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease, and (3) representatives from additional federal agencies (e.g., the Department of Justice).

ALZHEIMER’S ACCOUNTABILITY AND INVESTMENT ACT
(Short Title as Passed Senate)

[Public Law 118–93, [enacted October 1, 2024]]

This act requires the National Institutes of Health to annually submit, beginning in FY2024, an estimate of its budget and personnel needs for carrying out initiatives pursuant to the National Alzheimer’s Project directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Advisory Council on Alzheimer’s Research, Care, and Services may comment on the budget estimate but may not change it.

The National Alzheimer’s Project supports coordination of federal planning, research, and other efforts to address Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.

FIREFIGHTER CANCER REGISTRY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

[Public Law 118–147, [enacted December 12, 2024]]

This act reauthorizes through FY2028 the National Firefighter Registry for Cancer. This is a voluntary registry maintained by the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health that collects relevant health and occupational information to better understand and reduce cancers among firefighters.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

[Public Law 118–178, [enacted December 23, 2024]]

This act reauthorizes through FY2029 the Emergency Medical Services for Children State Partnership Program, which is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration. The program awards grants to state governments and medical schools to support emergency medical services for children who need treatment for trauma or critical care.

HEARTS ACT OF 2024 (Short Title as Passed Senate)

[Public Law 118–176, [enacted December 23, 2024]]

This act establishes a series of programs and requirements relating to cardiomyopathy. (Cardiomyopathy refers to a collection of diverse conditions of the heart muscle that can affect the ability of the heart to pump blood.)

Specifically, the Department of Health and Human Services must disseminate information about cardiomyopathy and the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to certain school professionals, families, and others, and it must develop specified risk assessment tools for cardiomyopathy. In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must report on certain research and surveillance activities, and the National Institutes of Health must report on its research relating to cardiomyopathy.

The act also establishes a grant program to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training and AEDs in public schools.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

[Public Law 118–178, [enacted December 23, 2024]]

This act reauthorizes through FY2029 the Emergency Medical Services for Children State Partnership Program, which is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration. The program awards grants to state governments and medical schools to support emergency medical services for children who need treatment for trauma or critical care.

GABRIELLA MILLER KIDS FIRST RESEARCH ACT 2.0

[Public Law 118–228, [enacted January 4, 2025]]

This Act reauthorizes through FY2028 a pediatric disease research initiative within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and requires the NIH to coordinate pediatric research activities to avoid duplicative efforts. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services must report to Congress about research funded through the initiative.

B. Families

JENNA QUINN LAW

[Public Law 118–193, [enacted December 23, 2024]]

This act allows the Department of Health and Human Services to provide grants for evidence-informed child sexual abuse awareness and prevention programs. The grants may be awarded for a period of up to five years.

The act also requires the Government Accountability Office to report on expenditures under the program.

STOP INSTITUTIONAL CHILD ABUSE ACT

[Public Law 118–194, [enacted December 23, 2024]]

This act requires the Department of Health and Human Services to contract with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study and make recommendations about various aspects of youth residential programs.

Specifically, the National Academies must identify the nature, prevalence, severity, and scope of child abuse, neglect, and deaths in youth residential programs.

The National Academies must make recommendations to improve coordination and the implementation of best practices of regarding the health, safety, care, and treatment of youth in youth residential programs. The National Academies also must make recommendations about education and training resources for personnel in health care, law enforcement, the judiciary, social work, and child protection.

In carrying out these requirements, the National Academies must consult with various experts in the field, including local, state, and federal agencies.

The National Academies must submit the report not later than three years after enactment of this bill and biennially thereafter for a period of 10 years.

C. Native American

NACIE IMPROVEMENT ACT

[Public Law 118–209, [enacted December 23, 2024]]

This act requires the President to ensure that the National Advisory Council on Indian Education includes at least one member who is the president of a tribal college or university.

II. VETOED LEGISLATION

In the 118th Congress, no Committee legislation was vetoed by the President.

III. BILLS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS, NOT ENACTED INTO LAW IN THE 118TH CONGRESS

A. Health

S. 4762—AUTISM CARES ACT OF 2024

A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs and research relating to autism, and for other purposes.

S. 4755—TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

A bill to reauthorize traumatic brain injury programs, and for other purposes.

S. 4325—LIFESPAN RESPITE CARE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program relating to lifespan respite care, and for other purposes.

S. 4045—EAST PALESTINE HEALTH IMPACT MONITORING ACT OF 2024

A bill to require a study on public health impacts as a consequence of the February 3, 2023, train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio.

S. 3775—BOLD INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ALZHEIMER'S REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3765—EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

S. 3757—CONGENITAL HEART FUTURES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

A bill to reauthorize the congenital heart disease research, surveillance, and awareness program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 3679—DR. LORNA BREEN HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

A bill to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3393—SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES
REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Act A bill to reauthorize the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2840—BIPARTISAN PRIMARY CARE AND HEALTH WORKFORCE ACT

A bill to improve access to and the quality of primary health care, expand the health workforce, and for other purposes.

S. 2415—PREVENTING MATERNAL DEATHS REAUTHORIZATION ACT
OF 2023

A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize Federal support of States in their work to save and sustain the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period, to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes for pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, to identify solutions to improve health care quality and health outcomes for mothers, and for other purposes.

S. 2333—PANDEMIC AND ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS AND
RESPONSE ACT

A bill to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes.

S. 1855—SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2023

A bill to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

S. 1852—SICKLE CELL DISEASE AND OTHER HERITABLE BLOOD DIS-
ORDERS RESEARCH, SURVEILLANCE, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT
ACT OF 2023

A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a sickle cell disease prevention and treatment demonstration program.

S. 1844—ANIMAL DRUG AND ANIMAL GENERIC DRUG USER FEE
AMENDMENTS OF 2023

A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs.

S. 1840—SCREENS FOR CANCER ACT OF 2023

A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and improve the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program for fiscal years 2024 through 2028, and for other purposes.

S. 1624—GABRIELLA MILLER KIDS FIRST RESEARCH ACT 2.0

This bill modifies funding for, and requires reporting about, a pediatric disease research initiative within the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Currently, this initiative receives funding through FY2023 from the 10-Year Pediatric Research Initiative Fund.

This bill directs certain penalties assessed by the Securities and Exchange Commission against pharmaceutical companies for specified violations to that fund. Additionally, the NIH must prioritize pediatric research that does not duplicate existing research activities when making allocations from the fund.

The bill also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report to Congress about the research projects funded through the initiative.

S. 1573—PREEMIE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

This bill reauthorizes through FY2028 and otherwise modifies research and education programs for preventing premature births.

For example, the bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish an interagency working group to improve the coordination of programs and activities to prevent preterm birth, infant mortality, and related adverse effects. (Current law permits HHS to establish such a working group.)

The bill also requires HHS to support a study carried out by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on matters related to premature births, such as the financial costs and factors that affect preterm birth rates.

S. 1339—PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER REFORM ACT

This bill establishes various requirements for pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) with respect to services provided to health insurance plans.

First, PBMs must report annually to the plan sponsor certain information about the PBM's services, including the amount of prescription drug copayment assistance funded by drug manufacturers, a list of covered drugs billed under the plan during the reporting period, and the total net spending by the health plan on prescription drugs. PBMs also must provide plan sponsors with a supplementary report every six months with specified information about drugs that were dispensed under the plan by pharmacies that are wholly or partially owned by the PBM.

Second, the bill prohibits spread pricing. Under the bill, spread pricing occurs when a PBM charges an insurance plan (or an insurance plan charges plan participants) a price for a prescription drug that exceeds the price paid to the pharmacy for the drug.

Finally, PBMs must remit to the plan sponsor all rebates, fees, alternative discounts, and other remuneration received from a drug manufacturer.

The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of these requirements and provides funding for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Department of Labor to implement the provisions of this bill.

S. 1214—RARE ACT

This bill specifies that the seven-year market exclusivity period for drugs for rare diseases or conditions (i.e., orphan drug exclusivity period) prohibits the approval of the same drug for the same approved use or indication with respect to the disease or condition.

Current law grants a seven-year period of market exclusivity for an approved orphan drug, during which the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may not approve an application from another manufacturer for the same drug for the same disease or condition. The FDA's regulations provide that this exclusivity is specific to the same approved use or indication of the drug, rather than all uses or indications, for the disease or condition. However, in *Catalyst Pharmaceuticals, Inc. v. Becerra*, a court held that exclusivity did extend to all uses or indications for the disease or condition.

The bill provides statutory authority for the FDA's regulations.

S. 1114—EXPANDING ACCESS TO LOW-COST GENERICS ACT OF 2023

This bill modifies provisions related to market exclusivity for a generic drug.

Currently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) awards 180 days of exclusivity on the market to a first applicant to file a qualifying application for market approval of a generic drug. Generally, this exclusivity period begins upon a first applicant's commercial marketing of the drug.

The bill authorizes the FDA to approve a subsequent generic drug application prior to a first applicant's first date of commercial marketing if (1) the subsequent application is ready for full approval, (2) the applicant certifies that there are no conditions that would prevent commercial marketing of the drug within 75 days of approval and that the applicant intends to do so, (3) a first applicant's application has been pending for at least 33 months, (4) the approval of a first applicant's application is not precluded by patent infringement claims asserted against that first applicant, and (5) no first applicant's application has been effectively approved on the date that all such conditions are met.

If an applicant fails to begin commercially marketing their drug within 75 days of approval via the aforementioned process, the applicant's approval is deemed tentative and the applicant is no longer eligible for subsequent approvals, unless the applicant certifies that the failure was due to unforeseen issues that have since been resolved.

Additionally, the FDA must inform generic drug applicants, upon request or during review, whether the drug is qualitatively and quantitatively the same as the listed brand-name drug (and if not, the reasons why).

S. 1067—ENSURING TIMELY ACCESS TO GENERICS ACT OF 2023

This bill establishes additional requirements related to citizen petitions concerning applications for generic drug or biosimilar market approval. (Citizen petitions are petitions submitted by third parties requesting that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) take certain actions, such as requiring additional warnings on a drug.)

Under the bill, the FDA may deny a citizen petition that (1) was submitted primarily to delay the approval of the relevant application, or (2) does not on its face raise valid scientific or regulatory issues. Currently, the FDA may deny a petition as an attempt at delay only if the petition meets both of these requirements.

The bill also expressly requires a third party, before filing a lawsuit to force the FDA to set aside or prevent market approval of a generic drug or biosimilar, to first file a citizen petition with the information and arguments that form the basis of the lawsuit. A citizen petition must be filed within 60 days of when the filer knew or reasonably should have known the information that forms the basis of the petition.

S. 954—AFFORDABLE INSULIN NOW ACT OF 2023

This bill limits cost-sharing for insulin under private health insurance and establishes a program to provide insulin to individuals without insurance.

Specifically, the bill caps cost-sharing under private health insurance for a month's supply of selected insulin products at \$35 or 25 percent of a plan's negotiated price (after any price concessions), whichever is less, beginning in 2024.

Further, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must enter into agreements with pharmacies or health care providers to provide insulin to individuals without insurance. HHS must pay such pharmacies or providers an amount equal to the difference between the out-of-pocket cost to the individual for a 30-day supply of such insulin products and \$35.

S. 644—MODERNIZING OPIOID TREATMENT ACCESS ACT

This bill expands access to methadone for an individual's unsupervised use to treat opioid use disorder (OUD). (Typically, methadone must be dispensed to individuals in person through opioid treatment programs.)

The bill (1) waives provisions of the Controlled Substances Act that require qualified practitioners to obtain a separate registration from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to prescribe and dispense methadone to treat OUD, and (2) requires the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the DEA to jointly report on the waiver.

Additionally, the bill directs the DEA to register certain practitioners to prescribe methadone that is dispensed through a pharmacy for an individual's unsupervised use. Qualified practitioners must be licensed or authorized to prescribe controlled substances, and they must either work for an opioid treatment program or be a physician or psychiatrist with a specialty certification in addiction medicine. A state may request that the DEA stop registering such practitioners in its jurisdiction.

Individuals who receive methadone for unsupervised use must continue to have access to other care through an opioid treatment program.

For purposes of the waiver, the bill also requires the exclusive use of electronic prescribing, establishes prescription limits, and sets out requirements for informed consent. Further, the bill permits the use of telehealth to provide methadone treatment and re-

lated services if the state and the Department of Health and Human Services jointly determine the use is feasible and appropriate.

S. 146—CAP INSULIN PRICES ACT

This bill reduces cost-sharing for insulin under private health insurance and the Medicare prescription drug benefit.

Specifically, the bill caps cost-sharing under private health insurance for a month's supply of selected insulin products at \$25 or 25 percent of a plan's negotiated price (after any price concessions), whichever is less, beginning in 2024.

The bill caps cost-sharing under the Medicare prescription drug benefit for a month's supply insulin products at \$25 beginning in 2024. The current cap on insulin products under Medicare is \$35 per month.

Education

S. 4686—TRANSPARENCY IN STUDENT LENDING ACT

A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the disclosure of the annual percentage rates applicable to Federal student loans.

S. 3392—AREA ACT

A bill to reauthorize the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, and the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1331—PSLF PAYMENT COMPLETION FAIRNESS ACT

This bill removes the requirement that a borrower must be employed in a public service job at the time of loan forgiveness under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program.

Under the current PSLF program, the Department of Education must cancel the balance of interest and principal due on a borrower's Federal Direct Loans after the borrower makes 120 monthly loan payments while employed in a public service job and, at the time of loan forgiveness, the borrower is employed in a public service job. This bill removes the requirement that the borrower must be working in a public service job at the time of loan forgiveness.

Labor and Employment

S. 3947—THIRTY-TWO HOUR WORKWEEK ACT

A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to reduce the standard workweek from 40 hours per week to 32 hours per week, and for other purposes.

S. 1664—HEALTHY FAMILIES ACT

A bill to allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

S. 728—PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

This bill addresses wage discrimination on the basis of sex. Specifically, it (1) limits an employer's defense that a pay differential is based on a factor other than sex to only bona fide job-related factors in wage discrimination claims, (2) enhances nonretaliation prohibitions, (3) makes it unlawful to require an employee to sign a contract or waiver prohibiting the employee from disclosing information about the employee's wages, and (4) increases civil penalties for violations of equal pay provisions.

Additionally, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs must train EEOC employees and other affected parties on wage discrimination.

The bill directs the Department of Labor to (1) establish and carry out a grant program for negotiation skills training for girls and women, (2) conduct studies to eliminate pay disparities between men and women, and (3) make available information on wage discrimination to assist the public in understanding and addressing such discrimination.

The bill also establishes the Secretary of Labor's National Award for Pay Equity in the Workplace for an employer who has made a substantial effort to eliminate pay disparities between men and women.

Finally, the bill requires the EEOC to issue regulations for collecting from employers compensation and other employment data according to the sex, race, and national origin of employees for use in enforcing laws prohibiting pay discrimination.

S. 567—RICHARD L. TRUMKA PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2023

This bill expands various labor protections related to employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain in the workplace.

Specifically, it revises the definitions of employee, supervisor, and employer to broaden the scope of individuals covered by the fair labor standards; permits labor organizations to encourage participation of union members in strikes initiated by employees represented by a different labor organization (i.e., secondary strikes); and prohibits employers from bringing claims against unions that conduct such secondary strikes.

The bill also allows collective bargaining agreements to require all employees represented by the bargaining unit to contribute fees to the labor organization for the cost of such representation, notwithstanding a state law to the contrary, and it expands unfair labor practices to include prohibitions against replacement of, or discrimination against, workers who participate in strikes.

The bill makes it an unfair labor practice to require or coerce employees to attend employer meetings designed to discourage union membership and prohibits employers from entering into agreements with employees under which employees waive the right to pursue or a join collective or class-action litigation.

Finally, the bill addresses the procedures for union representation elections, modifies the protections against unfair labor practices that result in serious economic harm, and establishes pen-

alties and permits injunctive relief against entities that fail to comply with National Labor Relations Board orders.

IV. OTHER BILLS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS, CONSIDERED BY THE SENATE IN THE 118TH CONGRESS

A. Health

MODERNIZING OPIOID TREATMENT ACCESS ACT

This bill expands access to methadone for an individual's unsupervised use to treat opioid use disorder (OUD). (Typically, methadone must be dispensed to individuals in person through opioid treatment programs.)

ENSURING TIMELY ACCESS TO GENERICS ACT OF 2023

This bill establishes additional requirements related to citizen petitions concerning applications for generic drug or biosimilar market approval. (Citizen petitions are petitions submitted by third parties requesting that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) take certain actions, such as requiring additional warnings on a drug.)

EXPANDING ACCESS TO LOW-COST GENERICS ACT OF 2023

This bill modifies provisions related to market exclusivity for a generic drug.

RARE ACT

This bill specifies that the seven-year market exclusivity period for drugs for rare diseases or conditions (i.e., orphan drug exclusivity period) prohibits the approval of the same drug for the same approved use or indication with respect to the disease or condition.

PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER REFORM ACT

This bill establishes various requirements for pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) with respect to services provided to health insurance plans.

PREEMIE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

This bill reauthorizes through FY2028 and otherwise modifies research and education programs for preventing premature births.

GABRIELLA MILLER KIDS FIRST RESEARCH ACT 2.0

This bill modifies funding for, and requires reporting about, a pediatric disease research initiative within the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

SCREENS FOR CANCER ACT OF 2023

This bill reauthorizes through FY2028 and makes changes to the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. This program provides funding to states for breast and cervical

cancer screening, diagnostic, and treatment services for individuals who have low incomes, are uninsured, or otherwise lack access to such services.

ANIMAL DRUG AND ANIMAL GENERIC DRUG USER FEE AMENDMENTS OF 2023

This bill reauthorizes the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to collect fees for brand-name and generic animal drug applications through FY2028. It also makes related updates to fee calculations and FDA reporting requirements.

SICKLE CELL DISEASE AND OTHER HERITABLE BLOOD DISORDERS RESEARCH, SURVEILLANCE, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT ACT OF 2023

This bill reauthorizes through FY2028 the Sickle Cell Disease Treatment Demonstration Program, which supports efforts to improve treatment and prevention of sickle cell disease and complications from that disease. (Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that can lead to pain, anemia, infections, and stroke.)

SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

This bill reauthorizes and funds through calendar year 2025 the Special Diabetes Program for Type I Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. The Special Diabetes Program for Type I Diabetes supports research on the prevention and cure of Type I diabetes, and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians supports diabetes treatment and prevention for tribal populations.

PANDEMIC AND ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE ACT

This bill reauthorizes through FY2028 and modifies public health preparedness and response programs and activities. The bill also addresses potential shortages of drugs and medical devices.

PREVENTING MATERNAL DEATHS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

This bill reauthorizes through FY2028 and otherwise modifies federal support for state-based efforts to improve maternal mortality review committees; enhance surveillance of pregnancy-associated and related deaths; and otherwise improve, and reduce disparities in, maternal health outcomes.

BIPARTISAN PRIMARY CARE AND HEALTH WORKFORCE ACT

To improve access to and the quality of primary health care, expand the health workforce, and for other purposes.

SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES REAUTHORIZATION ACT

To reauthorize the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, and for other purposes.

DR. LORNA BREEN HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

To reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and for other purposes.

CONGENITAL HEART FUTURES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

To reauthorize the congenital heart disease research, surveillance, and awareness program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

BOLD INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ALZHEIMER'S REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act, and for other purposes.

EAST PALESTINE HEALTH IMPACT MONITORING ACT OF 2024

To require a study on public health impacts as a consequence of the February 3, 2023, train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio.

LIFESPAN RESPITE CARE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program relating to lifespan respite care, and for other purposes.

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

To reauthorize traumatic brain injury programs, and for other purposes.

AUTISM CARES ACT OF 2024

To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs and research relating to autism, and for other purposes.

B. Education

PARENTS BILL OF RIGHTS ACT

This bill establishes various rights of parents and guardians regarding the public elementary or secondary school education (including secondary career and technical education) of their children. Local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools must comply with the requirements of the bill in order to receive federal education funds.

Specifically, the bill requires schools to notify parents and guardians of their rights regarding the education of their children. These rights include the right to

- review (and make copies of at no cost) the curriculum of their child's school;
- know if the state alters its challenging academic standards;
- meet with each teacher of their child at least twice each school year;
- review the budget, including all revenues and expenditures, of their child's school;

- inspect the books and other reading materials in the library of their child's school;
- address the school board of the LEA;
- receive information about violent activity in their child's school; and
- know if their child is not grade-level proficient in reading or language arts at the end of 3rd grade.

Additional rights include the right to

- receive information about any plans to eliminate gifted and talented programs or college credit programs in their child's school;
- know the total number of school counselors in their child's school;
- know if their child's school operates, sponsors, or facilitates athletic programs or activities that permit an individual whose biological sex is male to participate in an athletic program or activity that is designed for individuals whose biological sex is female;
- know if their child's school allows an individual whose biological sex is male to use restrooms or changing rooms designated for individuals whose biological sex is female; and
- receive timely information about any major cyberattack against their child's school.
- Each LEA must (1) post on a publicly accessible website (or otherwise widely disseminate to the public) the curriculum for each grade level, and (2) include detailed budget information in its annual report card.

The bill provides for additional family educational and privacy rights, including by (1) prohibiting schools from acting as an agent of a parent for purposes of providing verifiable parental consent for a vaccination, (2) prohibiting schools from selling student information for commercial or financial gain, and (3) requiring schools to engage meaningfully with parents in developing privacy policies or procedures.

An elementary school or a school consisting of only grades 5–8 must obtain parental consent before (1) changing a minor child's gender markers, pronouns, or preferred name on school forms; or (2) allowing a child to change the child's sex-based accommodations.

The bill requires the Government Accountability Office to evaluate and analyze the impact of the bill on protecting parents' rights in the education of their children and the costs to educational agencies and schools.

MATHEMATICAL AND STATISTICAL MODELING EDUCATION ACT

This bill requires the National Science Foundation (NSF) to take certain actions to increase mathematical and statistical modeling education in elementary and secondary schools.

First, the NSF must make competitive awards to institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations for research and development to support high-quality mathematical modeling education (e.g., data science and computational thinking) in schools, in-

cluding schools that are private, faith-based, or homeschools. This authority to provide awards expires on September 30, 2028.

In addition, the NSF must seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study and report on mathematical and statistical modeling education in schools.

ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE ACT OF 2023

This bill revises the requirements for an accrediting agency to be recognized by the Department of Education as a reliable authority on the quality of education being offered at an institution of higher education (IHE).

Specifically, an accrediting agency must confirm that its standards do not require, encourage, or coerce an IHE to (1) support, oppose, or commit to supporting or opposing specific partisan, political, or ideological viewpoints or beliefs or specific viewpoints or beliefs on social, cultural, or political issues; or (2) support or commit to supporting the disparate treatment of any individual or group on the basis of any protected class under federal civil rights law.

Additionally, an accrediting agency must confirm that its standards do not prohibit an IHE from having a religious mission. The accrediting agency may not prohibit the IHE from requiring an applicant, student, employee, or independent contractor to provide a statement of faith or adhere to a code of conduct.

The bill specifies that an IHE shall be eligible to participate in federal student aid programs if the IHE is in compliance with the standards of the accrediting agency that assesses the IHE in accordance with statute.

THINK DIFFERENTLY ABOUT EDUCATION ACT OF 2023

This bill establishes a notification requirement related to an individualized education program (IEP). (Generally, IEPs are individualized plans to ensure that a child with a disability receives a free appropriate public education.)

Under current law, states and local educational agencies (LEAs) must convene a team to develop an IEP. The composition of the team that develops the IEP is outlined in current law and allows for other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the child (including related services personnel, as appropriate) to participate in this team. This bill requires the LEA that serves the child to notify the child's parents of their right to include these other individuals with knowledge or special expertise on the child's IEP team.

CRUCIAL COMMUNISM TEACHING ACT

This bill directs the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation to develop a civic education curriculum and oral history resources for high school students to promote understanding of certain political ideologies (e.g., communism and totalitarianism) that conflict with principles of U.S. democracy.

AREA ACT

To reauthorize the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, and the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, and for other purposes.

C. Labor and Employment

A STRONGER WORKFORCE FOR AMERICA ACT

To amend and reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

RICHARD L. TRUMKA PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2023

This bill expands various labor protections related to employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain in the workplace.

Specifically, it revises the definitions of employee, supervisor, and employer to broaden the scope of individuals covered by the fair labor standards; permits labor organizations to encourage participation of union members in strikes initiated by employees represented by a different labor organization (i.e., secondary strikes); and prohibits employers from bringing claims against unions that conduct such secondary strikes.

The bill also allows collective bargaining agreements to require all employees represented by the bargaining unit to contribute fees to the labor organization for the cost of such representation, notwithstanding a state law to the contrary, and it expands unfair labor practices to include prohibitions against replacement of, or discrimination against, workers who participate in strikes.

The bill makes it an unfair labor practice to require or coerce employees to attend employer meetings designed to discourage union membership and prohibits employers from entering into agreements with employees under which employees waive the right to pursue or a join collective or class-action litigation.

Finally, the bill addresses the procedures for union representation elections, modifies the protections against unfair labor practices that result in serious economic harm, and establishes penalties and permits injunctive relief against entities that fail to comply with National Labor Relations Board orders.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

This bill addresses wage discrimination on the basis of sex. Specifically, it (1) limits an employer's defense that a pay differential is based on a factor other than sex to only bona fide job-related factors in wage discrimination claims, (2) enhances nonretaliation prohibitions, (3) makes it unlawful to require an employee to sign a contract or waiver prohibiting the employee from disclosing information about the employee's wages, and (4) increases civil penalties for violations of equal pay provisions.

Additionally, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs must train EEOC employees and other affected parties on wage discrimination.

The bill directs the Department of Labor to (1) establish and carry out a grant program for negotiation skills training for girls and women, (2) conduct studies to eliminate pay disparities between men and women, and (3) make available information on wage discrimination to assist the public in understanding and addressing such discrimination.

The bill also establishes the Secretary of Labor’s National Award for Pay Equity in the Workplace for an employer who has made a substantial effort to eliminate pay disparities between men and women.

Finally, the bill requires the EEOC to issue regulations for collecting from employers compensation and other employment data according to the sex, race, and national origin of employees for use in enforcing laws prohibiting pay discrimination.

HEALTHY FAMILIES ACT

To allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

V. LIST OF PUBLIC LAWS OF THE 118TH CONGRESS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

1. Public Law No: 118–66 *[enacted Jul. 2, 2024]*, To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure Parkinson’s, to be known as the National Parkinson’s Project, and for other purposes.

2. Public Law No: 118–84 *[enacted Sept. 26, 2024]*, To reauthorize the rural emergency medical service training and equipment assistance program, and for other purposes.

3. Public Law No: 118–86 *[enacted Sept. 26, 2024]*, To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain poison control programs.

4. Public Law No: 118–92 *[enacted Oct. 1, 2024]*, To extend the National Alzheimer’s Project.

5. Public Law No: 118–93 *[enacted Oct. 1, 2024]*, To require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer’s Project Act.

6. Public Law 118–147 *[enacted Dec. 12, 2024]*, To reauthorize through FY2028 the National Firefighter Registry for Cancer. This is a voluntary registry maintained by the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health that collects relevant health and occupational information to better understand and reduce cancers among firefighters.

7. Public Law No: 118–176 *[enacted Dec. 23, 2024]*, To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize and support the creation and dissemination of cardiomyopathy education, awareness, and risk assessment materials and resources to identify more at-risk families, to authorize research and surveillance activities relating to cardiomyopathy, and for other purposes.

8. Public Law 118–178 *[enacted Dec. 23, 2024]*, To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

9. Public Law No: 118–193 *[enacted Dec. 23, 2024]*, To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to provide for grants in support of training and education to teachers and other school employees, students, and the community about how to prevent, recognize, respond to, and report child sexual abuse among primary and secondary school students.

10. Public Law No: 118–194 *[enacted Dec. 23, 2024]*, To study and prevent child abuse in youth residential programs, and for other purposes.

11. Public Law No: 118–209 *[enacted Dec. 23, 2024]*, To require the President to ensure that the National Advisory Council on Indian Education includes at least one member who is the president of a tribal college or university.

12. Public Law 118–228 [*enacted Jan. 4, 2025*], To reauthorize through FY2028 a pediatric disease research initiative within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and requires the NIH to coordinate pediatric research activities to avoid duplicative efforts. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services must report to Congress about research funded through the initiative.

VI. LIST OF FULL COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDU- CATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

1. Examining Health Care Workforce Shortages: Where do We Go From Here?
(Full Committee)
Date: Feb. 16, 2023
2. Community Health Centers: Saving Lives, Saving Money
(Full Committee)
Date: Mar. 2, 2023
3. Defending the Right of Workers to Organize Unions Free From Illegal Corporate Union-Busting
(Full Committee)
Date: Mar. 8, 2023
4. Taxpayers Paid Billions for It: So Why Would Moderna Consider Quadrupling the Price of the Covid Vaccine?
(Full Committee)
Date: Mar. 22, 2023
5. No Company is Above the Law: The Need to End Illegal Union Busting At Starbucks
(Full Committee)
Date: Mar. 29, 2023
6. Nomination of Julie Su to Serve as Secretary of Labor
(Full Committee)
Date: Apr. 20, 2023
7. Preparing for the Next Public Health Emergency: Reauthorizing the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act
(Full Committee)
Date: May 4, 2023
8. The Need to Make Insulin Affordable for All Americans
(Full Committee)
Date: May 10, 2023
9. Roundtable: How Can We Improve Health Workforce Diversity and Address Shortages? A Conversation With Historically Black College and University Leaders and Students
(Field Hearing, Atlanta, GA)
Date: May 12, 2023
10. A Crisis in Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Care: Closing Gaps in Access By Bringing Care and Prevention to Communities
(Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security)
Date: May 17, 2023
11. Solving the Child Care Crisis: Meeting the Needs of Working Families and Child Care Workers
(Full Committee)
Date: May 31, 2023
12. Why Are So Many American Youth in A Mental Health Crisis? Exploring Causes and Solutions
(Full Committee)
Date: Jun. 8, 2023
13. Superbugs: The Impact of Antimicrobial Resistance On Modern Medicine
(Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security)
Date: Jul. 11, 2023
14. Nomination of Monica Bertagnolli to Be Director of the National Institutes of Health
(Full Committee)
Date: Sep. 18, 2023
15. Overworked and Undervalued: Is the Severe Hospital Staffing Crisis Endangering the Well-Being of Patients and Nurses?
(Field Hearing, New Brunswick, NJ)
Date: Oct. 27, 2023
16. AI and the Future of Work: Moving Forward Together
(Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety)
Date: Oct. 31, 2023

17. Avoiding A Cautionary Tale: Policy Considerations for Artificial Intelligence in Health Care
(Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security)
Date: Nov. 6, 2023
18. Standing Up Against Corporate Greed: How Unions Are Improving the Lives of Working Families
(Full Committee)
Date: Nov. 14, 2023
19. What is Fueling the Diabetes Epidemic?
(Full Committee)
Date: Dec. 14, 2023
20. Addressing Long COVID: Advancing Research and Improving Patient Care
(Full Committee)
Date: Jan. 18, 2024
21. Why Does the United States Pay, By Far, the Highest Prices in the World for Prescription Drugs?
(Full Committee)
Date: Feb. 8, 2024
22. Taking A Serious Look At the Retirement Crisis in America: What Can We do to Expand Defined Benefit Pension Plans for Workers?
(Full Committee)
Date: Feb. 28, 2024
23. The Older Americans Act: Supporting Efforts to Meet the Needs of Seniors
(Full Committee)
Date: Mar. 7, 2024
24. Youth Apprenticeships: Building Partnerships, Strengthening Career Pathways
(Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety)
Date: Mar. 12, 2024
25. Workers Should Benefit From New Technology and Increased Productivity: The Need for A 32-Hour Work Week With No Loss in Pay
(Full Committee)
Date: Mar. 14, 2024
26. When Health Care Becomes Wealth Care: How Corporate Greed Puts Patient Care and Health Workers At Risk
(Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security, Field Hearing, Boston, MA)
Date Apr. 3, 2024
27. What Can Congress do to Address the Severe Shortage of Minority Health Care Professionals and the Maternal Health Crisis?
(Full Committee)
Date: May 2, 2024
28. Examining the Dental Care Crisis in America: How Can We Make Dental Care More Affordable and More Available?
(Full Committee)
Date: May 16, 2024
29. Feeding A Healthier America: Current Efforts and Potential Opportunities for Food is Medicine
(Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security)
Date: May 21, 2024
30. Digging Deeper for Health and Safety: Examining New Standards and Practices in Mining (Subcommittee)
(Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety)
Date: May 22, 2024
31. The Assault On Women's Freedoms: How Abortion Bans Have Created A Health Care Nightmare Across America
(Full Committee)
Date: June 4, 2024
32. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Supporting Efforts to Meet the Needs of Youth Workers, and Employers
(Full Committee)
Date: June 12, 2024
33. Digging Deeper: Building Our Critical Minerals Workforce (Subcommittee)
(Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety)

Date: June 12, 2024

34. The Immediate and Long-Term Challenges Facing Public School Teachers: Low Pay, Teacher Shortages, and Underfunded Public Schools
(Full Committee)

Date: June 20, 2024

35. Everyday Expenses and Everyday Americans: How High Costs Impact Children and Families (Subcommittee)

(Subcommittee on Children and Families)

Date: July 9, 2024

36. What Can Congress do to End the Medical Debt Crisis in America?
(Full Committee)

Date: July 11, 2024

37. Examining the Bankruptcy of Steward Health Care: How Management Decisions Have Impacted Patient Care
(Full Committee)

Date: September 12, 2024

38. Why is Novo Nordisk Charging Americans With Diabetes and Obesity Outrageously High Prices for Ozempic and Wegovy?
(Full Committee)

Date: September 24, 2024

39. Reading the Room: Preparing Workers for AI
(Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety)

Date: September 25, 2024

40. What is the FDA Doing to Reduce the Diabetes and Obesity Epidemics in America and Take on the Greed of the Food and Beverage Industry?
(Full Committee)

Date: December 5, 2024

VII. ANTICIPATED ACTIVITIES FOR 119TH CONGRESS

A. Health Care

The Committee will work to address the high cost of prescription drugs, as well as restore confidence in our nation's public health institutions. It will conduct business to reauthorize multiple expiring health care programs.

B. Education

The Committee will support and empower parental involvement in their child's education, working to reverse the severity of declining literacy and better serve students with dyslexia. It will also hold colleges accountable and aim to improve affordability for students.

C. Labor

The Committee will support modernizing the American workforce, acknowledging that more than 27 million workers engage in gig work and enjoy the flexibility independent contracting provides.

D. Pensions

The Committee will look at our retirement system and how to improve retirement security. It will continue its work to examine failures of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to prevent taxpayer dollars from being improperly paid to union pension funds.

Committee Printing

The Committee printed a total of 860 copies of hearings and reports during the 118th Congress.

APPENDIX

I. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Full Committee

Proceeding Against Dr. Ralph de la Torre for Contempt of the Senate
S. Rept. 118–230

Reported: Mar. 23, 2023.

Report on Legislative Activities of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
Pensions, United States Senate during the 118th Congress (2023–2024)
S. Rept. 119–00

Reported: Mar. 31, 2025

Children and Families

No Reports for the 118th Congress

Employment and Workplace Safety

No Reports for the 118th Congress

Primary Health and Retirement Security

No Reports for the 118th Congress

II. PUBLIC LAWS ENACTED DURING THE 118TH CONGRESS

S. 5355

NACIE Improvement Act **Public Law 118–209**

Dec. 23, 2024

S. 4351

Poison Control Centers Reauthorization Act of 2024 **Public Law 118–86**

Sept. 26, 2024

H.R. 6960

Emergency Medical Services for Children Reauthorization Act of 2024 **Public Law
118–178**

Dec. 23, 2024

H.R. 6829

HEARTS Act of 2024 **Public Law 118–176**

Dec. 23, 2024

H.R. 3821

Firefighter Cancer Registry Reauthorization Act of 2023 **Public Law 118–147**

Dec. 12, 2024

H.R. 3391

Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0 **Public Law 118–228**

Jan. 4, 2025

S. 1351

Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act **Public Law 118–194**

Dec. 23, 2024

S. 1147

Jenna Quinn Law **Public Law 118–193**

Dec. 23, 2024

H.R. 2365

Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act **Public Law 118–66**

Jul. 2, 2024

S. 265

SIREN Reauthorization Act **Public Law 118–84**

Sept. 26, 2024

S. 134

Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act **Public Law 118–93**

Oct. 1, 2024

S. 133

NAPA Reauthorization Act **Public Law 118–92**

Oct. 1, 2024

III. HEARINGS BY FULL COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES

HEARINGS BY THE FULL COMMITTEE

EXAMINING HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE SHORTAGES: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Examining the health care workforce shortages

Date: Feb. 16, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–187**)

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS: SAVING LIVES, SAVING MONEY

Examining the community health centers

Date: Mar. 2, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–188**)

**DEFENDING THE RIGHT OF WORKERS TO ORGANIZE UNIONS FREE
FROM ILLEGAL CORPORATE UNION-BUSTING**

Examining defending the right of workers to organize unions free from illegal corporate union-busting

Date: Mar. 8, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–189**)

**TAXPAYERS PAID BILLIONS FOR IT: SO WHY WOULD MODERNA
CONSIDER QUADRUPLING THE PRICE OF THE COVID VACCINE?**

Examining the Moderna considering quadrupling the price of the COVID vaccine

Date: Mar. 22, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–190**)

**NO COMPANY IS ABOVE THE LAW: THE NEED TO END ILLEGAL UNION
BUSTING AT STARBUCKS**

Examining the need to end illegal union busting at Starbucks

Date: Mar. 29, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–191**)

NOMINATION OF JULIE SU TO SERVE AS SECRETARY OF LABOR

Examining the nomination of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Secretary of Labor

Date: Apr. 20, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–196**)

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY: REAUTHORIZING THE PANDEMIC AND ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS ACT

Examining the preparing for the next public health emergency, focusing on reauthorizing the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act

Date: May 4, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–197**)

THE NEED TO MAKE INSULIN AFFORDABLE FOR ALL AMERICANS

Examining the need to make insulin affordable for all Americans

Date: May 10, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–198**)

ROUNDTABLE: HOW CAN WE IMPROVE HEALTH WORKFORCE DIVERSITY AND ADDRESS SHORTAGES? A CONVERSATION WITH HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LEADERS AND STUDENTS

(Field Hearing, Atlanta, GA)

Date: May 12, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–199**)

**SOLVING THE CHILD CARE CRISIS: MEETING THE NEEDS OF
WORKING FAMILIES AND CHILD CARE WORKERS**

Examining the solving the child care crisis, focusing on meeting the needs of working families and child care workers

Date: May 31, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–201**)

**WHY ARE SO MANY AMERICAN YOUTH IN A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS?
EXPLORING CAUSES AND SOLUTIONS**

Examining the American youth mental health crisis, focusing on causes and solutions

Date: Jun. 8, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–202**)

**NOMINATION OF MONICA BERTAGNOLLI TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH**

Examining the Nomination of Monica Bertagnolli to be Director of the National Institutes of Health

Date: Sept. 18, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–204**)

**STANDING UP AGAINST CORPORATE GREED: HOW UNIONS ARE
IMPROVING THE LIVES OF WORKING FAMILIES**

Examining the standing up against corporate greed, focusing on how unions are improving the lives of working families

Date: Nov. 14, 2023

Number of volumes: Two (**S. Hrg. 118–210**)

WHAT IS FUELING THE DIABETES EPIDEMIC?

Examining the diabetes epidemic

Date: Dec. 14, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–211**)

**ADDRESSING LONG COVID: ADVANCING RESEARCH AND IMPROVING
PATIENT CARE**

Examining addressing long COVID, focusing on advancing research and improving patient care

Date: Jan. 18, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–319**)

**WHY DOES THE UNITED STATES PAY, BY FAR, THE HIGHEST PRICES
IN THE WORLD FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS?**

Examining the cost of prescription drugs

Date: Feb. 8, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–320**)

**TAKING A SERIOUS LOOK AT THE RETIREMENT CRISIS IN AMERICA:
WHAT CAN WE DO TO EXPAND DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS
FOR WORKERS?**

Examining the retirement crisis in America, focusing on expanding defined benefit pension plans for workers

Date: Feb. 28, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–321)

**THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT: SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO MEET THE
NEEDS OF SENIORS**

Examining the Older Americans Act, focusing on supporting efforts to meet the needs of seniors

Date: Mar. 7, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–322)

**WORKERS SHOULD BENEFIT FROM NEW TECHNOLOGY AND IN-
CREASED PRODUCTIVITY: THE NEED FOR A 32-HOUR WORK WEEK
WITH NO LOSS IN PAY**

Examining workers benefitting from new technology and increased productivity, including S. 3947, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to reduce the standard workweek from 40 hours per week to 32 hours per week

Date: Mar. 14, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–329)

**WHAT CAN CONGRESS DO TO ADDRESS THE SEVERE SHORTAGE OF
MINORITY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS AND THE MATERNAL
HEALTH CRISIS?**

Examining what Congress can do to address the severe shortage of minority health care professionals and the maternal health crisis

Date: May 2, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–331)

**EXAMINING THE DENTAL CARE CRISIS IN AMERICA: HOW CAN WE
MAKE DENTAL CARE MORE AFFORDABLE AND MORE AVAILABLE?**

Examining the dental care crisis in America, focusing on making dental care more affordable and more available

Date: May 16, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–332)

**THE ASSAULT ON WOMEN'S FREEDOMS: HOW ABORTION BANS HAVE
CREATED A HEALTH CARE NIGHTMARE ACROSS AMERICA**

Examining women's freedoms, focusing on access to abortions across America

Date: June 4, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–465)

THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT: SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUTH WORKERS, AND EMPLOYERS

Examining the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, focusing on supporting efforts to meet the needs of youth, workers, and employers

Date: June 12, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–466**)

THE IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM CHALLENGES FACING PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS: LOW PAY, TEACHER SHORTAGES, AND UNDERFUNDED PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Examining the immediate and long-term challenges facing public school teachers, focusing on low pay, teacher shortages, and underfunded public schools

Date: June 20, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–468**)

WHAT CAN CONGRESS DO TO END THE MEDICAL DEBT CRISIS IN AMERICA?

Examining what Congress can do to end the medical debt crisis in America

Date: July 11, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–471**)

EXAMINING THE BANKRUPTCY OF STEWARD HEALTH CARE: HOW MANAGEMENT DECISIONS HAVE IMPACTED PATIENT CARE

Examining the bankruptcy of Steward Health Care, focusing on how management decisions have impacted patient care

Date: September 12, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–472**)

WHY IS NOVO NORDISK CHARGING AMERICANS WITH DIABETES AND OBESITY OUTRAGEOUSLY HIGH PRICES FOR OZEMPIC AND WEGOVY?

Examining Novo Nordisk's high prices for Ozempic and Wegovy for patients with diabetes and obesity

Date: September 24, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–473**)

WHAT IS THE FDA DOING TO REDUCE THE DIABETES AND OBESITY EPIDEMICS IN AMERICA AND TAKE ON THE GREED OF THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY?

Examining what the Food and Drug Administration is doing to reduce the diabetes and obesity epidemics in America, focusing on the food and beverage industry

Date: December 5, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–507**)

HEARINGS ON NOMINATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Julie A. Su, of California, to be Secretary of Labor

Date: Apr. 20, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–196**)

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Monica Bertagnolli to be Director of the National Institutes of Health

Date: Sept. 18, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–204**)

HEARINGS BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**EVERYDAY EXPENSES AND EVERYDAY AMERICANS: HOW HIGH COSTS
IMPACT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Date: July 9, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–469**).

**HEARINGS BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND
WORKPLACE SAFETY**

**YOUTH APPRENTICESHIPS: BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS,
STRENGTHENING CAREER PATHWAYS**

Date: Mar. 12, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–323**).

**DIGGING DEEPER FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY: EXAMINING NEW
STANDARDS AND PRACTICES IN MINING**

Date: May 22, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–334**).

DIGGING DEEPER: BUILDING OUR CRITICAL MINERALS WORKFORCE

Date: June 12, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–467**).

READING THE ROOM: PREPARING WORKERS FOR AI

Date: September 25, 2024

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–474**)

AI AND THE FUTURE OF WORK: MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Date: Oct. 31, 2023

Number of volumes: One (**S. Hrg. 118–208**)

**HEARINGS BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIMARY HEALTH AND
RETIREMENT SECURITY**

**A CRISIS IN MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER CARE:
CLOSING GAPS IN ACCESS BY BRINGING CARE AND PREVENTION TO
COMMUNITIES**

Date: May 17, 2023

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–200).

**SUPERBUGS: THE IMPACT OF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE ON
MODERN MEDICINE**

Date: Jul. 11, 2023

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–203).

**OVERWORKED AND UNDERVALUED: IS THE SEVERE HOSPITAL STAFF-
ING CRISIS ENDANGERING THE WELL-BEING OF PATIENTS AND
NURSES?**

(Field Hearing, New Brunswick, NJ)

Date: Oct. 27, 2023

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–207).

**AVOIDING A CAUTIONARY TALE: POLICY CONSIDERATIONS FOR
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTH CARE**

Date: Nov. 6, 2023

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–209).

**WHEN HEALTH CARE BECOMES WEALTH CARE: HOW CORPORATE
GREED PUTS PATIENT CARE AND HEALTH WORKERS AT RISK**

(Field Hearing, Boston, MA)

Date Apr. 3, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–330).

**FEEDING A HEALTHIER AMERICA: CURRENT EFFORTS AND
POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOOD IS MEDICINE**

Date: May 21, 2024

Number of volumes: One (S. Hrg. 118–333).

IV. STATISTICAL SUMMARY

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS 118TH CONGRESS

	2023 1ST SESS.	2024 2D SESS.	TOTALS
Nominations			
Referred to Committee	22	10	32
Reported to Senate	16	6	22
Confirmed by Senate	7	6	13
Withdrawn (by House or personal request)	0	0	0
Returned to President (pursuant to Rule XXXI of Senate)	0	1	1
Recess Appointments	0	0	0
Communications			
Presidential messages	0	0	0
Executive/reports	95	214	309
Total	95	214	309
Bills and Resolutions*			
Senate bills and joint resolutions	207	692	899
Senate resolutions and concurrent resolutions	42	46	88
House-passed bills, joint resolutions, and concurrent resolutions	4	23	27
Total	253	761	1,014
Hearing Days Held**			
Full Committee:			
In Washington, DC	12	14	26
Out of town	1	0	1
Subcommittees:			
In Washington, DC	5	7	12
Out of town	0	1	1
Total	18	22	40
Executive Meetings			
Full committee	16	6	22
Subcommittees	0	0	0
Conference sessions	0	1	1
Total	16	7	23
Reported to the Senate			
Senate bills and joint resolutions	2	10	12
House-passed bills	0	5	5
Senate resolutions, concurrent resolutions, and special reports	41	45	86
Total	43	60	103
Presidential Action			
Public laws	0	12	12
Vetoed	0	0	0
Presidential vetoes overridden and enacted into law	0	0	0

*Including bills acted upon introduction and Senate and House bills taken from the Calendar or desk. **Including nomination hearings.
 ***Including bills reported by and discharged from the Committee.

V. RULES OF PROCEDURE

RULES OF PROCEDURE (AS AGREED TO JANUARY 16, 2021)

Rule 1.—Subject to the provisions of rule XXVI, paragraph 5, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, regular meetings of the committee shall be held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, at 10:00 a.m., in room SD-430, Dirksen Senate Office Building. The chairman may, upon proper notice, call such additional meetings as he may deem necessary.

Rule 2.—The chairman of the committee or of a subcommittee, or if the chairman is not present, the ranking majority member present, shall preside at all meetings. The chairman may designate the ranking minority member to preside at hearings of the committee or subcommittee.

Rule 3.—Meetings of the committee or a subcommittee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public except as otherwise specifically provided in subsections (b) and (d) of rule 26.5 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Rule 4.—(a) Subject to paragraph (b), one-third of the membership of the committee, actually present, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business. Any quorum of the committee which is composed of less than a majority of the members of the committee shall include at least one member of the majority and one member of the minority.

(b) A majority of the members of a subcommittee, actually present, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business: provided, no measure or matter shall be ordered reported unless such majority shall include at least one member of the minority who is a member of the subcommittee. If, at any subcommittee meeting, a measure or matter cannot be ordered reported because of the absence of such a minority member, the measure or matter shall lay over for a day. If the presence of a member of the minority is not then obtained, a majority of the members of the subcommittee, actually present, may order such measure or matter reported.

(c) No measure or matter shall be ordered reported from the committee or a subcommittee unless a majority of the committee or subcommittee is physically present.

Rule 5.—With the approval of the chairman of the committee or subcommittee, one member thereof may conduct public hearings other than taking sworn testimony.

Rule 6.—Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the committee or a subcommittee if the absent member has been informed of the matter on which he is being recorded and has affirmatively requested that he be so recorded. While proxies may be voted on a motion to report a measure or matter from the committee, such a motion shall also require the concurrence of a majority of the members who are actually present at the time such action is taken.

The committee may poll any matters of committee business as a matter of unanimous consent; provided that every member is polled and every poll consists of the following two questions:

- (1) Do you agree or disagree to poll the proposal; and
- (2) Do you favor or oppose the proposal.

Rule 7.—There shall be prepared and kept a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to fully record the proceedings of each committee or subcommittee meeting or conference whether or not such meetings or any part thereof is closed pursuant to the specific provisions of subsections (b) and (d) of rule 26.5 of the Standing Rules of the Senate, unless a majority of said members vote to forgo such a record. Such records shall contain the vote cast by each member of the committee or subcommittee on any question on which a “yea and nay” vote is demanded, and shall be available for inspection by any committee member. The clerk of the committee, or the clerk’s designee, shall have the responsibility to make appropriate arrangements to implement this rule.

Rule 8.—The committee and each subcommittee shall undertake, consistent with the provisions of rule XXVI, paragraph 4, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, to issue public announcement of any hearing or executive session it intends to hold at least one week prior to the commencement of such hearing or executive session. In the case of an executive session, the text of any bill or joint resolution to be considered must be provided to the chairman for prompt electronic distribution to the members of the committee.

Rule 9.—The committee or a subcommittee shall require all witnesses heard before it to file written statements of their proposed testimony at least 24 hours before a hearing, unless the chairman and the ranking minority member determine that there is good cause for failure to so file, and to limit their oral presentation to brief summaries of their arguments. Testimony may be filed electronically. The presiding officer at any hearing is authorized to limit the time of each witness appearing before the committee or a subcommittee. The committee or a subcommittee shall, as far as practicable, utilize testimony previously taken on bills and measures similar to those before it for consideration.

Rule 10.—Should a subcommittee fail to report back to the full committee on any measure within a reasonable time, the chairman may withdraw the measure from such subcommittee and report that fact to the full committee for further disposition.

Rule 11.—No subcommittee may schedule a meeting or hearing at a time designated for a hearing or meeting of the full committee. No more than one subcommittee executive meeting may be held at the same time.

Rule 12.—It shall be the duty of the chairman in accordance with section 133(c) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended, to report or cause to be reported to the Senate, any measure or recommendation approved by the committee and to take or cause to be taken, necessary steps to bring the matter to a vote in the Senate.

Rule 13.—Whenever a meeting of the committee or subcommittee is closed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) or (d) of rule 26.5 of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no person other than members of the committee, members of the staff of the committee, and designated assistants to members of the committee shall be permitted to attend such closed session, except by special dispensation of the committee or subcommittee or the chairman thereof.

Rule 14.—The chairman of the committee or a subcommittee shall be empowered to adjourn any meeting of the committee or a

subcommittee if a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes of the time schedule for such meeting.

Rule 15.—Whenever a bill or joint resolution shall be before the committee or a subcommittee for final consideration, the clerk shall distribute to each member of the committee or subcommittee a document, prepared by the sponsor of the bill or joint resolution. If the bill or joint resolution has no underlying statutory language, the document shall consist of a detailed summary of the purpose and impact of each section. If the bill or joint resolution repeals or amends any statute or part thereof, the document shall consist of a detailed summary of the underlying statute and the proposed changes in each section of the underlying law and either a print of the statute or the part or section thereof to be amended or replaced showing by stricken-through type, the part or parts to be omitted and, in italics, the matter proposed to be added, along with a summary of the proposed changes; or a side-by-side document showing a comparison of current law, the proposed legislative changes, and a detailed description of the proposed changes.

Rule 16.—An appropriate opportunity shall be given the minority to examine the proposed text of committee reports prior to their filing or publication. In the event there are supplemental, minority, or additional views, an appropriate opportunity shall be given the majority to examine the proposed text prior to filing or publication. Unless the chairman and ranking minority member agree on a shorter period of time, the minority shall have no fewer than three business days to prepare supplemental, minority or additional views for inclusion in a committee report from the time the majority makes the proposed text of the committee report available to the minority.

Rule 17.—(a) The committee, or any subcommittee, may issue subpoenas, or hold hearings to take sworn testimony or hear subpoenaed witnesses, only if such investigative activity has been authorized by majority vote of the committee.

(b) for the purpose of holding a hearing to take sworn testimony or hear subpoenaed witnesses, three members of the committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum: provided, with the concurrence of the chairman and ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee, a single member may hear subpoenaed witnesses or take sworn testimony.

(c) The committee may, by a majority vote, delegate the authority to issue subpoenas to the chairman of the committee or a subcommittee, or to any member designated by such chairman. Prior to the issuance of each subpoena, the ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee, and any other member so requesting, shall be notified regarding the identity of the person to whom it will be issued and the nature of the information sought and its relationship to the authorized investigative activity, except where the chairman of the committee or subcommittee, in consultation with the ranking minority member, determines that such notice would unduly impede the investigation. All information obtained pursuant to such investigative activity shall be made available as promptly as possible to each member of the committee requesting same, or to any assistant to a member of the committee designated by such member in writing, but the use of any such information is

subject to restrictions imposed by the rules of the Senate. Such information, to the extent that it is relevant to the investigation shall, if requested by a member, be summarized in writing as soon as practicable. Upon the request of any member, the chairman of the committee or subcommittee shall call an executive session to discuss such investigative activity or the issuance of any subpoena in connection therewith.

(d) Any witness summoned to testify at a hearing, or any witness giving sworn testimony, may be accompanied by counsel of his own choosing who shall be permitted, while the witness is testifying, to advise him of his legal rights.

(e) No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented in an executive hearing, or any report of the proceedings of such an executive hearing, shall be made public, either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee.

Rule 18.—Presidential nominees shall submit a statement of their background and financial interests, including the financial interests of their spouse and children living in their household, on a form approved by the committee which shall be sworn to as to its completeness and accuracy. The committee form shall be in two parts—

(I) information relating to employment, education and background of the nominee relating to the position to which the individual is nominated, and which is to be made public; and,

(II) information relating to financial and other background of the nominee, to be made public when the committee determines that such information bears directly on the nominee's qualifications to hold the position to which the individual is nominated.

Information relating to background and financial interests (parts I and II) shall not be required of nominees for less than full-time appointments to councils, commissions or boards when the committee determines that some or all of the information is not relevant to the nature of the position. Information relating to other background and financial interests (part II) shall not be required of any nominee when the committee determines that it is not relevant to the nature of the position.

Committee action on a nomination, including hearings or meetings to consider a motion to recommend confirmation, shall not be initiated until at least five days after the nominee submits the form required by this rule unless the chairman, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, waives this waiting period.

Rule 19.—Subject to statutory requirements imposed on the committee with respect to procedure, the rules of the committee may be changed, modified, amended or suspended at any time; provided, not less than a majority of the entire membership so determine at a regular meeting with due notice, or at a meeting specifically called for that purpose.

Rule 20.—When the ratio of members on the committee is even, the term “majority” as used in the committee’s rules and guidelines shall refer to the party of the chairman for purposes of party identification. Numerical requirements for quorums, votes and the like shall be unaffected.

Rule 21.—First degree amendments must be filed with the chairman at least 24 hours before an executive session. The chairman shall promptly distribute all filed amendments electronically to the members of the committee. The chairman may modify the filing requirements to meet special circumstances with the concurrence of the ranking minority member.

Rule 22.—In addition to the foregoing, the proceedings of the committee shall be governed by the Standing Rules of the Senate and the provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended.

* * * * *

GUIDELINES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS WITH RESPECT TO HEARINGS, MARKUP SESSIONS, AND RELATED MATTERS

HEARINGS

Section 133A(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act requires each committee of the Senate to publicly announce the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing at least one week prior to the commencement of such hearing.

The spirit of this requirement is to assure adequate notice to the public and other Members of the Senate as to the time and subject matter of proposed hearings. In the spirit of section 133A(a) and in order to assure that members of the committee are themselves fully informed and involved in the development of hearings:

1. Public notice of the date, place, and subject matter of each committee or subcommittee hearing should be inserted in the Congressional Record seven days prior to the commencement of such hearing.
2. At least seven days prior to public notice of each committee or subcommittee hearing, the majority should provide notice to the minority of the time, place and specific subject matter of such hearing.
3. At least three days prior to the date of such hearing, the committee or subcommittee should provide to each member a list of witnesses who have been or are proposed to be invited to appear.
4. The committee and its subcommittee should, to the maximum feasible extent, enforce the provisions of rule 9 of the committee rules as it relates to the submission of written statements of witnesses twenty-four hours in advance of a hearing. Witnesses will be urged to submit testimony even earlier whenever possible. When statements are received in advance of a hearing, the committee or subcommittee (as appropriate) should distribute copies of such statements to each of its members. Witness testimony may be submitted and distributed electronically.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MARKING UP BILLS

In order to expedite the process of marking up bills and to assist each member of the committee so that there may be full and fair

consideration of each bill which the committee or a subcommittee is marking up the following procedures should be followed:

1. Seven days prior to the proposed date for an executive session for the purpose of marking up bills the committee or subcommittee (as appropriate) should provide written notice to each of its members as to the time, place, and specific subject matter of such session, including an agenda listing each bill or other matters to be considered and including:

(a) a copy of each bill, joint resolution, or other legislative matter (or committee print thereof) to be considered at such executive session; and

(b) a copy of a summary of the provisions of each bill, joint resolution, or other legislative matter to be considered at such executive session including, whenever possible, an explanation of changes to existing law proposed to be made.

2. Insofar as practical, prior to the scheduled date for an executive session for the purpose of marking up bills, the committee or a subcommittee (as appropriate) should provide each member with a copy of the printed record or a summary of any hearings conducted by the committee or a subcommittee with respect to each bill, joint resolution, or other legislative matter to be considered at such executive session.

