

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH 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 of H.R. 267, Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013; H.R. __, Collinsville
Renewable Energy Promotion Act; H.R. 297, to amend the Public Health Service Act to
reauthorize support for graduate medical education programs in children's hospitals; H.R.
225, National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013; and, H.R. 235, Veteran Emergency
Medical Technician Support Act of 2013
Full Committee
January 22, 2013

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for scheduling today's markup of three bipartisan public health bills and two bipartisan hydropower bills. Each of these bills passed the House in the 112th Congress but did not advance in the Senate. I am pleased that we are working once again to move them forward on a bipartisan basis.

The Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act is sponsored by Chairman Pitts and Ranking Member Pallone. H.R. 297 continues the successful national physician training program that provides ongoing and consistent financial support to hospitals such as Children's Hospital of Los Angeles for the training of doctors who specialize in pediatrics.

Congresswomen Capps and McMorris Rodgers are the authors of the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013, which would allow the National Institutes of Health to establish a national pediatric research network dedicated to finding treatments and cures for pediatric diseases and conditions – especially those that are rare. H.R. 225 also places special emphasis on professional training for future pediatric researchers. I would encourage NIH to take full advantage of this opportunity to build on the strong body of its existing pediatric research.

The Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2013 is sponsored by Congressman Kinzinger and Congresswoman Capps. It authorizes a demonstration grant program to states so they, in turn, can streamline the certification and licensure requirements for returning veterans to become emergency medical technicians. This legislation seeks to respond to higher than average unemployment rates experienced by our veterans – advancing our shared goals of getting our vets back to work and addressing areas of shortage in health professions.

H.R. 267 is a bipartisan bill introduced by Congresswomen McMorris Rodgers and DeGette that will facilitate the development of new, environmentally responsible hydropower projects. Their staffs worked closely with the Committee staff to produce this legislation. We had extensive discussions with interested stakeholders and agencies. It was a good, cooperative process that produced balanced, bipartisan legislation. The bill is supported by both hydropower developers and environmental organizations.

The last bill is the Collinsville hydropower legislation introduced by Congresswoman Esty of Connecticut. The bill would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reinstate licenses for two hydroelectric projects on the Farmington River and to transfer these licenses to the town of Canton, Connecticut. This balanced bill allows FERC to get these projects licensed expeditiously while ensuring that the appropriate environmental analysis is completed and considered.

Democrats and Republicans worked together to bring each of these bills before the Full Committee today. I urge my colleagues to support these bills.