

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-3641

Minority (202) 225-2927

July 14, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: Subcommittee on Health Members and Staff
From: Committee on Energy and Commerce Majority Staff
Re: Subcommittee on Health Hearing on July 16, 2025

I. INTRODUCTION

The Subcommittee on Health will hold a hearing on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. (ET) in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building. The hearing is entitled “Legislative Proposals to Maintain and Improve the Public Health Workforce, Rural Health, and Over-the-Counter Medicines.” The Subcommittee intends to discuss the following pieces of legislation:

- H.R. 4273, Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Amendments (Reps. Latta and DeGette)
- H.R. 3686, SAFE Sunscreen Standards Act (Reps. Joyce of PA and Dingell)
- H.R. 2821, FDA Modernization Act 3.0 (Reps. Carter of GA and Barragán)
- H.R. ____, [Title VII Reauthorization]
- H.R. ____, [Title VIII Reauthorization]
- H.R. 2493, Improving Care in Rural America Reauthorization Act of 2025 (Reps. Carter of GA and Figures)
- H.R. 3419, To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the telehealth network and telehealth resource centers grant programs. (Reps. Valadao and Gray)
- H.R. 3302, Healthy Start Reauthorization Act of 2025 (Reps. Ocasio-Cortez and Malliotakis)
- H.R. 2846, To amend Title II of the Public Health Service Act to include as an additional right or privilege of commissioned officers of the Public Health Service (and their beneficiaries) certain leave provided under title 10, United States Code to commissioned officers of the Army (or their beneficiaries). (Reps. Houlihan and Bacon)
- H.R. ____, [Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act of 2025]

II. WITNESSES

- **Dr. Jacqueline Corrigan-Curay, JD, MD**, Acting Director for Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- **Dr. Candice Chen, MD, MPH**, Acting Associate Administrator for Health Workforce, U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration
- **Mr. Tom Morris, MPA**, Associate Administrator for Rural Health Policy, U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration

III. BACKGROUND

Food and Drug Administration

Congress authorized the Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Program (referred to as “OMUFA”) for five years under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (P.L. 116-136) on March 27, 2020.¹ The enactment of this program reformed the regulation of over-the-counter monograph drugs and authorized the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to assess and collect user fees dedicated to over-the-counter monograph drug activities. The current legislative authority for OMUFA expires on September 30, 2025.

Following the process prescribed by statute, FDA and regulated industry negotiated an agreement regarding the size and scope of the user fees for fiscal years (FY) 2026 through 2030 (OMUFA II). FDA held public meetings with associated dockets for public comment, soliciting input and working with various stakeholders to develop reauthorization recommendations. Under the proposed OMUFA II agreement, FDA estimates the facility fee revenue negotiated in OMUFA II will average approximately \$41 million per fiscal year.

Health Resources and Services Administration & Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Title VII and Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (PHSA) authorize a number of education and training programs to support the health care workforce. In 1963, Congress passed the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act (P.L. 88-129), amending Title VII of the PHSA (hereinafter “Title VII”).² The following year, Congress took action to address similar concerns within the nursing workforce, passing the Nurse Training Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-581), establishing Title VIII of the PHSA (hereinafter “Title VIII”).³ The workforce programs authorized in Title VII and Title VIII have evolved across subsequent reauthorizations to support the education and training of health professions. These programs were most recently reauthorized in 2020 through the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136).⁴ The authorized funding for programs within Title VII and Title VIII will expire September 30, 2025.

¹ *Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act* (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. § 379j-72 (added as § 744M of the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act*, PL 116-136, March 27, 2020, 134 Stat 281).

² Bernice Reyes-Akinbileje, *Title VII Health Professions Education and Training: Issues in Reauthorization*, RL32546, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE (CRS), Feb. 7, 2008, https://www.everycrsreport.com/files/20080207_RL32546_8d85842aa992393c438cd263a861800b4160ee12.pdf.

³ *Nursing Workforce Programs in Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act*, RL32805, CRS, Mar. 10, 2005, https://www.everycrsreport.com/files/20050310_RL32805_910d5e128d76f6067cf78119471044661613bba3.pdf.

⁴ Elayne J. Heisler, *et al.*, *Selected Health Provisions in Title III of the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136)*, R46334, CRS, Apr. 29, 2020, https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/R/PDF/R46334/R46334.3.pdf.

In addition to the workforce programs expiring at the end of fiscal year 2025 are programs that provide critical access to care and promote positive health outcomes. The Healthy Start program was created in 1991 to help communities improve infant and maternal health outcomes by providing education, training and other resources to grantees.⁵ The Rural Health Care Services Outreach, Network Development, and Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement grants provide support for rural community health by focusing on quality improvement, increasing health care access, coordination of care, and integration of services.⁶ The Telehealth Network and Telehealth Resource Centers grant programs help facilitate access to telehealth services so patients can receive long-distance care and reduce travel time to and from doctor appointments.⁷

IV. LEGISLATION

H.R. 4273, Over-the-Counter Drug Monograph Drug User Fee Amendments (Reps. Latta and DeGette)

This legislation would reauthorize OMUFA for fiscal years FY 2026 to FY 2030. Reauthorization of these programs would include the negotiated agreement on performance goals and procedures between FDA and industry for the upcoming five-year period. This would be the first reauthorization of OMUFA.

H.R. 3686, SAFE Sunscreen Standards Act (Reps. Joyce of PA and Dingell)

This legislation would revise certain evidentiary and testing standards for the evaluation of sunscreen active ingredients, including allowing for the consideration of additional kinds of scientific evidence and non-animal testing methods. This legislation would also require FDA to update the final administrative order on pending sunscreen active ingredients to take into account historical data demonstrating safe use of sunscreen active ingredients, as well as sunscreen's use to prevent skin cancer. This legislation requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue an annual report on implementation of the standards established by this bill.

H.R. 2821, FDA Modernization Act 3.0 (Reps. Carter of GA and Barragán)

This legislation would require the Secretary to publish an interim final rule to replace the use of animal tests, data, studies, models, and research with references to nonclinical tests, data, studies, models, and research.

⁵ *Healthy Start Fact Sheet*, U.S. HEALTH RESOURCE AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA), Feb. 2025 (last accessed Jul. 10, 2025), <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/mchb/about-us/mchb-healthy-start-factsheet.pdf>.

⁶ *Report to Congress: Rural Health Care Services Outreach, Rural Health Network Development, and Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Programs Fiscal Years 2021-2022*, HRSA, Sept. 17, 2024, https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CMR-HE20_9000-00190340/pdf/CMR-HE20_9000-00190340.pdf.

⁷ *Report to Congress: Telehealth Network and Telehealth Resource Centers Grant Programs 2023*, HRSA, Jan. 30, 2024, https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CMR-HE20_9000-00185926/pdf/CMR-HE20_9000-00185926.pdf#:~:text=HRSA%20provides%20telehealth%20network%20funding%20through%20two%20grant,and%20Evidence%20Based%20Telehealth%20Network%20Program%20%28EB%20TNP%29.

H.R. ____, [Title VII Reauthorization]

This legislation would reauthorize programs within Title VII of the PHSA through FY 2030. The reauthorized Title VII programs will support the growth of the health care workforce through education and training.

H.R. ____, [Title VIII Reauthorization]

This legislation would reauthorize programs within Title VIII of the PHSA through FY 2030. The reauthorized Title VIII programs will support nursing workforce development through education and training.

H.R. 2493, Improving Care in Rural America Reauthorization Act of 2025 (Reps. Carter of GA and Figures)

This legislation would reauthorize grant programs for rural health care services outreach, rural health network development, and small health care provider improvement through FY 2030.

H.R. 3419, To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the telehealth network and telehealth resource centers grant programs. (Reps. Valadao and Gray)

This legislation would reauthorize the telehealth network and telehealth resource centers grant programs through FY 2030.

H.R. 3302, Healthy Start Reauthorization Act of 2025 (Reps. Ocasio-Cortez and Malliotakis)

This legislation would reauthorize the Healthy Start program through FY 2030.

H.R. 2846, To amend title II of the Public Health Service Act to include as an additional right or privilege of commissioned officers of the Public Health Service (and their beneficiaries) certain leave provided under title 10, United States Code to commissioned officers of the Army (or their beneficiaries). (Reps. Houlahan and Bacon)

This legislation would amend the Public Health Service Act so that the process of acquiring leave for commissioned Public Health Service officers aligns with that of other uniformed services.

H.R. ____, [Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act of 2025]

This legislation would reauthorize certain programs and activities related to newborn screening of heritable disorders.

V. STAFF CONTACTS

If you have questions regarding this hearing, please contact Annabelle Huffman of the Committee staff at (202) 225-3641.