TO:        Republican Members, Committee on Energy and Commerce
CC:        House Republican Leadership Team
FROM:      Fred Upton, Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce
DATE:      January 2013
RE:        Fourth Quarter Report, Second Session of the 112th Congress

This week, we commence the 113th Congress. In some ways, our legislative slate is clean. Bills are numbered beginning once again at 1, and our committee will again begin to build a hearing and legislative record examining the many issues that fall within our purview. We welcome old friends and new faces to the Energy and Commerce Committee with a renewed sense of camaraderie and cooperation. Yet this fresh start does not mean we forget the work of the last two years.

Our record in the 112th Congress is an impressive one. Bills signed into law. Many more advanced through the House. Investigations that uncovered waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayers’ dollars. And innovative new ways of interacting with the American people. For the final time, I am pleased to report to you on the work of the Energy and Commerce Committee in the 112th Congress. Once each quarter, I have shared these updates on our accomplishments. I hope they have been a useful compilation of the hard work you put in over the last two years; for our incoming members, I hope these memos provide a roadmap of what you can expect from our team going forward.

**Energy and Commerce Committee By the Numbers**

188  The Energy and Commerce Committee and its six subcommittees held 188 hearings during the 112th Congress, more than any previous Congress in nearly two decades

69   In addition, the committee held 69 markups; 35 were held at the full committee level, and another 34 were held among the subcommittees

569.81  To complete all those hearings and markups, members of the committee spent 569.81 hours hard at work in our hearing rooms

88  The committee’s busy hearing and markup schedule translated into major legislative production, with a total of 88 E&C bills receiving consideration on the House floor

165  During consideration of those bills, 165 amendments were offered and debated – a mark of the openness and transparency that characterizes current House leadership

40  40 bills advanced by our committee were signed into law, including several key prescription drug and medical device measures incorporated into a broader package

208  The 31 Republican members of Energy and Commerce introduced a total of 208 bills that were referred to our committee in the 112th Congress
Additional Energy and Commerce Milestones

- In 2012, the Energy and Commerce Committee launched a new website as part of its ongoing effort to improve information transparency and accessibility. The new site is a one-stop-shop for members of the public and news media seeking information on the panel, its members, and its work. The new homepage features a one-click calendar that allows users to see upcoming activity, view webcasts, and link to legislation, testimony, and amendments. It also offers a multi-level carousel featuring news, video, photos, and other items of interest. In the Track the Trends section, visitors can quickly see the key issues being considered in the committee and on the House floor. These and many more features can be found online at http://energycommerce.house.gov. To read a blog post on the website’s launch and its many new features, click here.

- Continuing the drive to find new ways to share information with the public, the committee established The Policy Paper Series in 2012. This is an ongoing effort to showcase policy and legislative research and analysis, diving more deeply into key issues of the day. Prepared by the expert staff of the committee, The Policy Paper Series identifies emerging policy challenges, examines new approaches for reform, and provides a foundation for future legislative and oversight action. The first three white papers released as part of The Policy Paper Series include an examination of the administration’s green jobs policy entitled Not Very Green, Not Many Jobs; a look at the history of and research surrounding abstinence education entitled A Better Approach to Teenage Pregnancy Prevention; and a review of executive branch transparency entitled Promises Made, Promises Broken: The Obama Administration’s Disappointing Transparency Track Record. Branded with the tagline Transforming Ideas Into Solutions, The Policy Paper Series will continue to be home to innovative policy solutions in the coming years.

- A third new initiative aimed at communicating and engaging with the American public is the use of forums to invite stakeholder input on key issues. Beginning in 2011, the committee hosted a series of Jobs and Innovation Forums examining the obstacles and opportunities facing key American economic sectors. Issues included a look at the medical device industry; an examination of the natural gas revolution; and an overview of American manufacturing. Continuing the forum concept, the Energy and Power Subcommittee launched a series of Clean Air Act forums that invite stakeholders from around the country to provide written comments and appear in person for a discussion of what is working well with the Clean Air Act and what could be improved more than two decades since the last update to the law. So far, the subcommittee has convened a total of three such forums looking at issues of state, local, and federal cooperation in the Clean Air Act (see Part I, Part II, and Part III). The series will continue in the 113th Congress.

- Recognizing the Energy and Commerce Committee’s illustrious role in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives, the committee this year began what should become a tradition of commemorating the establishment of this panel in 1795. In a blog post marking the anniversary, the committee wrote, “The history of the Committee on Energy and Commerce is the story of Congress at work to achieve American prosperity and opportunity. Just 19 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed, and eight
years after the Constitution was ratified, the infant nation known as the United States of America was challenged by how to create laws in a way that best served the American people. Since its inception on December 14, 1795, our committee, first established as the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures, has considered, reported, and overseen many of the most important and vital pieces of legislation to be enacted by the United States Congress. Today, the committee has responsibility for matters including telecommunications, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health and research, environmental quality, energy policy, and interstate and foreign commerce.”

Read more here.

Issues in Focus: The Work of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittees

**Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade**

- Led by Chairman Mary Bono Mack and Vice Chairman Marsha Blackburn, the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade in the 112th Congress was focused on sensible consumer protections for the 21st century. The subcommittee had an impressive legislative record, including 5 bills signed into law. Among the key initiatives spearheaded by the panel was the Where The Jobs Are hearing series, which began a sector-by-sector review of the obstacles and opportunities facing the American economy. As Chairman Bono Mack frequently noted, the subcommittee was working to make “Made in America” matter again. The subcommittee took a thoughtful look at online privacy, recognizing that government intervention could harm the very consumers it intends to protect. And the panel produced key laws within its jurisdictional interest, including much-needed reforms to a 2008 consumer product safety law; extension of the SAFE WEB Act to protect consumers from online foreign fraud; and cost-effective vehicle safety provisions included in the highway bill. Click here to view the subcommittee’s page on the Energy and Commerce website.

**Subcommittee on Communications and Technology**

- Under Chairman Greg Walden and Vice Chairman Lee Terry, the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology in the 112th Congress was the committee’s innovation hub, with a clear focus on policies that will spur economic growth by allowing the communications and technology sectors to thrive. The subcommittee focused on a series of good government policies, from oversight of stimulus spending to process reforms for the Federal Communications Commission, and from erasing outdated regulations to ensuring the right policies are in place to make the most efficient and effective use of the nation’s airwaves. The spectrum reform package signed into law this year was one of the most significant job-creating policies enacted by the 112th Congress, paving the way for expanded wireless broadband access and an interoperable public safety network. The subcommittee also pioneered the use of bipartisan working groups to delve more deeply into issues including cybersecurity and government use of spectrum, and it stood firmly in support of online innovation, freedom, and democracy by advancing unanimously supported resolutions that reject U.N. efforts to promote international control of the
Internet. Click here to view the subcommittee’s page on the Energy and Commerce website.

Subcommittee on Energy and Power

- Led by Chairman Ed Whitfield and Vice Chairman John Sullivan, the Energy and Power Subcommittee was our legislative workhorse, holding 50 hearings and 14 markups, and passing 15 bills through the House of Representatives. The subcommittee was on the front lines in the battle over how regulations affect our economy, advancing a series of bills to replace costly, overreaching regulations with a more sensible, achievable approach. In addition, the panel advanced the notion of meaningful cost-benefit analysis in the regulatory process, and it conducted important oversight of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and other executive branch agencies. The subcommittee was instrumental in the American Energy Initiative and the House Energy Action Team, two initiatives driven by the House GOP leadership team to highlight our positive solutions for an all-of-the-above energy policy that can help bring us closer to the ultimate goal of North American Energy Independence. Click here to view the subcommittee’s page on the Energy and Commerce website.

Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy

- With Chairman John Shimkus and Vice Chairman Tim Murphy leading the way, the Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy focused on sensible environmental policy that protects American jobs and communities. The subcommittee’s work spanned everything from chemical plant security and oversight to nuclear waste management and the operations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. In addition, the panel’s work on a new state-based framework for the safe management and reuse of coal residuals has the potential to become a new model for environmental regulation. Together with the Energy and Power Subcommittee, the Environment and the Economy Subcommittee hosted a forum on the natural gas revolution, exploring how new extraction techniques and thoughtful state regulations – as opposed to onerous federal requirements – have allowed natural gas production to flourish, creating jobs and affordable energy in the process. Finally, the subcommittee's legislation to eliminate an outdated requirement for paper manifests used to track hazardous waste was signed into law, bringing hazardous waste tracking into the 21st century and saving millions of dollars in the process. Click here to view the subcommittee’s page on the Energy and Commerce website.

Subcommittee on Health

- Under Chairman Joe Pitts and Vice Chairman Michael Burgess, the Subcommittee on Health has been a remarkable producer of innovative approaches to health reform, billions of dollars in budgetary savings, and bipartisan solutions to pressing public health concerns. A major accomplishment of the subcommittee is its work to extend and reform the programs that support FDA approval of innovative new prescription drugs and medical devices. Recognizing that health care spending through entitlement programs is
on an unsustainable course, the panel continues working on a long-term solution for Medicare physician payment rates and a more flexible approach to the state-federal partnership in the Medicaid program. And because Obamacare remains a costly, overreaching law that we cannot afford and that the American people have rejected, the subcommittee worked to repeal the law through effective oversight and a series of individual bills that identify and eliminate unaffordable, unaccountable new programs one at a time. Click here to view the subcommittee’s page on the Energy and Commerce website.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

- Led by Chairman Cliff Stearns alongside the five Vice Chairmen of the legislative subcommittees, the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee left an indelible mark on the 112th Congress with its investigations on behalf of American taxpayers. Their work made Solyndra a household name, and more importantly, set a foundation upon which we passed legislation to ensure such a scandal never happens again. But the panel’s oversight work included so much more, with investigations into the health care law, the NRC and its efforts to shut down Yucca Mountain, Medicare waste, fraud, and abuse, the LightSquared controversy, transparency within the executive branch, regulatory and budget policy, and the work of the Food and Drug Administration in responding to and working to prevent a series of food and drug contamination incidents. Oversight has been a priority of this Congress, and in turn this committee, and it plays an important role in supporting our legislative agenda. Click here to view the subcommittee’s page on the Energy and Commerce website.

Energy and Commerce Committee Quarterly Reports

- First things first: A focus on jobs. In April of 2011, the first quarter report for the first session of the 112th Congress outlined key accomplishments of each of the six subcommittees. From the report: “Our agenda is a jobs agenda. When we see a health care law that drags down our economy, drives up government spending, and burdens job creators, we have a duty to conduct strong oversight and work to repeal it. When we see regulations run amok, threatening to drive U.S. jobs overseas and make energy cost more, we have a duty to change course and stop the reckless bureaucratic rulemaking. And when a federal power grab threatens the innovation and investments that have driven entire industries to spring up from nothing, we have a duty to overrule the unelected bureaucrats and protect the Internet from government regulation.” Read the report here.

- Results in numbers: How E&C is saving the taxpayers’ money and protecting jobs. In July of 2011, we used the second quarter report for the first session to quantify our work in both the amount of savings generated for taxpayers and the number of jobs we protected from costly government regulations. In just the first six months of the year, the committee produced legislation to save taxpayers close to $90 billion, protect nearly 4 million jobs from being destroyed by job-crushing regulations, and create another 150,000+ jobs via American Energy Initiative legislation to increase domestic production and energy security while bringing down prices at the pump. Read the report here.
- **Tangible accomplishments: Showing each subcommittee’s proven results.** In October of 2011, with the report for the third quarter of the first session, we outlined how the Energy and Commerce Committee is delivering results both legislatively and through our oversight responsibilities. Each of our six subcommittees produced tangible accomplishments in the form of bills advanced through the House or signed into law; regulatory oversight that produced actual administrative changes; investigations that exposed financial mismanagement and regulatory overreach; and substantive hearings examining issues of importance to the American people. At that time, just nine months into the year, our topline accomplishments included nearly 100 hearings, 24 bills approved by the full committee, and 17 Energy and Commerce bills approved by the House. [Read the report here.](#)

- **The year in review: Legislative and oversight accomplishments in 2011.** In January 2012, we looked back on the entire first session of the 112th Congress with a fourth quarter report that showed how all our work across six subcommittees examining a broad range of issues fits together under a series of broad themes that guide our efforts. We examined our focus on jobs and the economy; our efforts to halt runaway government spending and address unsustainable levels of public debt; and our work to secure individual freedoms. We outlined our considerable work in the area of government oversight, and we outlined the many steps we have taken to pursue appropriate consumer protections to ensure individuals, families, and communities can thrive. [Read the report here.](#)

- **Tying it all together: Messaging themes that guide our work.** In April 2012, the report for the first quarter of the second session of the 112th Congress again examined our work in the context of three broad themes: supporting job creation and economic growth; standing up for taxpayers by reducing the size and scope of the federal government; and protecting individuals, families, and communities. From the report: “We produced legislation and advanced it through the full U.S. House of Representatives. We conducted oversight, poring over documents from the administration and listening to expert witnesses who warned about wasteful spending and an opaque executive branch. Above all else, we continued listening to our constituents and ensuring our work here in Washington promoted their best interests and reflected the principles they sent us here to uphold.” [Read the report here.](#)

- **Promises made, promises kept: Progress report on specific legislative goals.** In July 2012, the sixth quarterly report produced for our team and our leadership outlined the progress that had been made by the committee on specific milestones established in January of 2012. From the report: “With the first half of the year now complete, and three-fourths of the 112th Congress now in the rearview mirror, it seems like a fitting time to revisit the goals we set forth a few short months ago. I am pleased to report to you that we have made significant progress on the legislative initiatives we identified at the beginning of the year, and work is underway to complete them all.” The report highlights a number of issues where the committee has made strides toward the overall goal of
creating a more efficient, limited government that provides the necessary conditions for job creation and economic growth. Read the report here.

- **The year in review: Legislative and oversight accomplishments in 2012.** In October 2012, recognizing that the bulk of legislative work for the year was complete, the third quarter report for the second session provided an overview of our efforts throughout 2012. It examined bipartisan accomplishments in the form of bills signed into law. It looked at our legislative leadership demonstrated by the bills we advanced through the House. It detailed our signature investigations, through which we used oversight to hold government accountable to the people. And it outlined how we used hearings and forums to tackle the tough issues facing our nation. I wrote then – and I continue to believe – that our record gives us much to be proud of: “In the waning days of the 112th Congress, as we interact with our constituents and when the time comes for us to return to Washington, we can reflect on a record of promises made and promises kept. We developed an agenda rooted in three core objectives: supporting job creation and economic growth; reforming government while reducing its size and scope; and protecting rights and freedoms for individuals and communities. We wrote, debated, and advanced legislation that achieved those goals. We conducted substantive investigations and demanded that government be held accountable to its people. We reached across the aisle to work with our colleagues on shared priorities, and we listened to the American people.” Read the report here.

**For the Record: A List of Legislative Accomplishments**

*Bills Referred to the Energy and Commerce Committee and Approved by the House*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Bill Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 2</td>
<td>Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 3</td>
<td>No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 5</td>
<td>Protecting Access to Healthcare Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 313</td>
<td>Drug Trafficking Safe Harbor Elimination Act of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 358</td>
<td>Protect Life Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 443</td>
<td>To provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 525</td>
<td>Veterinary Public Health Amendments Act of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 570</td>
<td>Dental Emergency Responder Act of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 733</td>
<td>Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act of 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 910</td>
<td>Energy Tax Prevention Act of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1076</td>
<td>To prohibit Federal funding of National Public Radio and the use of Federal funds to acquire radio content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1213</td>
<td>To repeal mandatory funding provided to States in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to establish American Health Benefit Exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1214</td>
<td>To repeal mandatory funding for school-based health center construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1216</td>
<td>To amend the Public Health Service Act to convert funding for graduate medical education in qualified teaching health centers from direct appropriations to an authorization of appropriations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
H.R. 1217 - To repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund
H.R. 1343 - To return unused or reclaimed funds made available for broadband awards in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to the Treasury of the United States
H.R. 1633 - Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2011
H.R. 1852 - Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2011
H.R. 2005 - Combating Autism Reauthorization Act of 2011*
H.R. 2250 - EPA Regulatory Relief Act of 2011
H.R. 2273 - Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act
H.R. 2401 - Transparency in Regulatory Analysis of Impacts on the Nation Act of 2011
H.R. 2405 - Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act of 2011
H.R. 2681 - Cement Sector Regulatory Relief Act of 2011
H.R. 2715 - To provide the Consumer Product Safety Commission with greater authority and discretion in enforcing the consumer product safety laws, and for other purposes*
H.R. 2845 - Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011*
  • Contains provisions from H.R. 2937 - Pipeline Infrastructure and Community Protection Act of 2011
H.R. 3310 - Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act of 2012
H.R. 3408 - PIONEERS Act
  • Contains provisions from H.R. 3548 - North American Energy Access Act
H.R. 3409 - Stop the War on Coal Act of 2012
H.R. 3630 - Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*
  • Contains provisions from H.R. ___ - Jumpstarting Opportunity with Broadband Spectrum Act (Committee Print)
H.R. 3765 - Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011*
H.R. 4089 - Sportsmen's Heritage Act of 2012
H.R. 4124 - Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2012
H.R. 4212 - Drywall Safety Act of 2012**
H.R. 4273 - Resolving Environmental and Grid Reliability Conflicts Act of 2012
H.R. 4281 - Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012*
H.R. 4348 - MAP-21*
H.R. 4480 - Domestic Energy and Jobs Act
H.R. 4628 - Interest Rate Reduction Act
H.R. 4850 - Enabling Energy Saving Innovations Act
H.R. 4970 - Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2012
H.R. 5625 - Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act
H.R. 5651 - Food and Drug Administration Reform Act of 2012
H.R. 5859 - To repeal an obsolete provision in title 49, United States Code, requiring motor vehicle insurance cost reporting**
H.R. 5865 - American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2012
H.R. 5892 - Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2012
H.R. 6064 - Temporary Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012*
H.R. 6079 - Repeal of Obamacare Act

* H.R. 2937 contains provisions from H.R. 2937 - Pipeline Infrastructure and Community Protection Act of 2011
** H.R. 4212 contains provisions from H.R. 4212 - Drywall Safety Act of 2012
The following measures were incorporated into the comprehensive FDA package, S. 3187:

- H.R. 3988 - Generic Drug and Biosimilar User Fee Act of 2012
- H.R. 4272 - BPCA and PREA Reauthorization Act of 2012
- H.R. 3209 - Premarket Predictability Act of 2011
- H.R. 3208 - Patients Come First Act of 2011
- H.R. 3203 - Novel Device Regulatory Relief Act of 2011
- H.R. 3230 - Keeping America Competitive Through Harmonization Act of 2011
- H.R. 3205 - FDA Renewing Efficiency From Outside Reviewer Management Act of 2011
- H.R. 3975 - to amend title V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to extend the provisions of the Pediatric Medical Device Safety & Improvement Act
- H.R. 4132 - FAST Act
- H.R. 5334 - To amend chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to expedite the development and review of breakthrough therapies
- H.R. 4156 - Expanding and Promoting Expertise in Review of Rare Treatments Act of 2012
- H.R. 3059 - Creating Hope Act of 2011
- H.R. 2227 - Medical Gas Safety Act
• **H.R. 3206** - Cultivating Scientific Expertise to Foster Innovation for Patients Act of 2011
• **H.R. 3207** - Modernizing Laboratory Test Standards for Patients Act of 2011
• **H.R. 1254** - Synthetic Drug Control Act of 2011

* Enacted into Law
**Cleared by the House and Senate, awaiting the President’s signature as of January 1, 2013

### A Word in Closing

It has been an honor to lead this team for the past two years, and it truly is a team that made these accomplishments possible. We came with big ideas. We reached across the aisle. We stuck to our principles, and we listened to the people who elected us. I am so proud of the work of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and I look with great anticipation toward the 113th Congress and beyond. To our members who are departing, I am grateful for your many contributions – please know that you each left a mark on this committee. And to our newly named members, welcome aboard. I hope this report has given you a taste of what our panel can achieve working together.

The committee has a strong leadership team for the 113th Congress. Marsha Blackburn will serve as Vice Chairman of the Full Committee, and she will translate the work of our committee – particularly our efforts to address spiraling entitlement spending – into a new role as a member of the Budget Committee. Joe Barton remains Chairman Emeritus, bringing his experience and expertise to each of the six subcommittees. Lee Terry takes the reins as Chairman of the Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee, with Leonard Lance becoming Vice Chairman. Greg Walden remains Chairman of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee, and he is joined by Bob Latta as the Vice Chairman. Ed Whitfield continues as Chairman of the Energy and Power Subcommittee, with Steve Scalise stepping up to the role of Vice Chairman. The Environment and the Economy Subcommittee continues to be led by John Shimkus, with Phil Gingrey becoming Vice Chairman. Our Health Subcommittee maintains its strong leadership under Chairman Joe Pitts and Vice Chairman Michael Burgess, a role Burgess will also play for the first time for the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, which is being Chaired in the 113th Congress by Tim Murphy.

Our leadership slate is strong, but we could not do what we do without the active participation of every single member of the team. Once again, I thank you all for your contributions over the 112th Congress and I look forward to our work in the coming weeks, months, and years.