



House Subcommittee Advances Funding Bill with Key Programs for Navajo Nation Included



*Subcommittee Chairman Robert Aderholt at the Markup Hearing
Photo Courtesy of The House Appropriations Committee Website*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 5:00 PM, the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Labor, Health, Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing in Capitol Complex, H-140 room in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the hearing was to markup the Labor, Health, Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Bill. All members of the subcommittee attended the hearing, with Congressman Tom Cole (R-OK), chairman of the entire committee, also in attendance.

Subcommittee Chairman Robert Aderholt (R-AL) opened the hearing by framing the Labor, Health, Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Bill as financially responsible, explaining that it prioritizes biodefense, rural hospitals, and school choice, while cutting programs that are nice to have but are not necessary. Aderholt emphasized the removal of funding for Planned Parenthood and of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives, among others. Aderholt ended by explaining that the bill was showing mainstream values and protecting taxpayer dollars.

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) spoke next, explaining that she strongly opposed the bill as it cuts \$24 billion from education, healthcare, and labor programs. She explained that this bill, as well as the Medicaid and Medicare cuts would harm vulnerable families. DeLauro warned the bill undermined public health and education and urged her fellow committee members to reject it.

Following her statement, Committee Chairman Tom Cole explained that he supported the bill for the same reasons as Congressman Aderholt, as well as believing the bill helped meet the Trump Administration's goal to end "progressive overreach". He ended his time by praising the people in the room for their hard work.

Other members of the subcommittee also spoke, showing clear bipartisanship regarding on how they viewed the bill. The Democrat members of Congress urged the subcommittee to reject the bill, meanwhile the Republican members supported the bill wholeheartedly. The final vote was 11 in favor and 7 opposed, with the votes divided along party lines. At the end, the bill was recommended to the House floor without any markups.

The bill contains a \$10 million increase on funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, as well as a \$6 million increase for programs under the Community Services Block Grant Act. Both programs are crucial for the Navajo Nation, and the Navajo Nation Washington Office will continue monitoring the budget process to ensure this funding remains as is.