Thank you, Madam Chair. I will forgo making an

opening statement. I will note two things. I have a markup going

on in Judiciary, so please note that is the reason for my absence

in part of this meeting today, and I apologize for that.

Secondly, I noted when I walked in, the presence of Tom Lantos’

widow here today, and she of course attended many, many meetings

over the years. And I have the distinct honor and pleasure of

working both with Tom Lantos and under him when he was chair

of the committee as well, and he is deeply, deeply missed. And he

was one who truly stood for collegiality and bipartisanship, and we

fought on various issues but we actually—this happens on this

committee, we actually agree on some issues too, which is good.

This chair is following in his footsteps in many ways. As Henry

Hyde and Ben Gilman and some of the other real stars on Capitol

Hill. So thank you; we miss him very deeply and we are glad to

see you here today.