

Thank you Chairman, and I thank you for holding today's hearing on House consideration of H. Res. 115 – the House Committee funding resolution for the 113th Congress.

As you are more than aware, Committees do the lion's share of Congress' work, which is why this funding process is so important.

When determining committee funding levels, we must adhere to two primary principles.

First and foremost, we must live within our means. As a result of sequestration, the *total* committee authorization level *must* be reduced by approximately 11 percent. That means that if we authorize above that amount, we'll have

to take money from somewhere else – a luxury we don't have.

Second, we must prioritize. When ensuring that Committees have adequate resources, we must consider their legislative objectives and their anticipated workload and authorize accordingly.

These were guiding principles throughout this process. Living within our means and prioritizing our finite resources – principles that our economy demands Americans adhere to everyday.

Two weeks ago, House Administration held a two-day hearing where we heard from nearly every committee Chair and Ranking Member – and we, again, thank of them for taking the time to participate. They each

provided compelling testimony on their respective budgetary needs.

After two days of testimony, much deliberation and consultation with each committee, we decided that each committee will receive a reduction of approximately 11 percent or a reduction within one point of 11 percent – with three exceptions.

Based on their anticipated workload, the Committee on Ways and Means, the Committee on the Budget and the Select Committee on Intelligence will receive smaller reductions.

This was unquestionably a difficult decision as every committee has tremendous oversight responsibilities. However, given the current state of our economy, sequestration, the need for tax and entitlement reform and

the need for greater cybersecurity efforts, these three committees have particularly daunting agendas and shall get some reprieve.

Mr. Chairman, as we have mentioned before, these cuts might be difficult for some to manage. It will require everyone to do more with less. But it is the reality we face. It is the reality a lot of Americans face.

Mr. Chairman, we must live within our means. We owe it to the House, the People's House.

Again, I thank you for holding today's hearing and respectfully ask that this resolution receive an appropriate rule for consideration by the full House.