

Committee on Energy and Commerce

**Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of**

**Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Ranking Member Janice
Schakowsky**

***Hearing on “AI in Manufacturing: Securing American Leadership in Manufacturing and the
Next Generation of Technologies”***

February 12, 2025

President Trump and Elon Musk are creating chaos and uncertainty. That chaos is hurting American workers. We’ve spent billions of taxpayer dollars to bring manufacturing back to America. Democrats’ investments created good-paying jobs making chips and building cars.

But these jobs, and the families they support, are under threat from President Trump. Republicans have turned their back on American workers. It has already led to layoffs. This is the opposite of what our manufacturing industry needs. One thing that could benefit American manufacturing is artificial intelligence (AI).

But the benefits of new technologies must flow to workers. We must ensure AI democratizes success. Not that it upholds an economy rigged for the wealthy. So much of this subcommittee’s work is about consumer protection. That’s why I want to express my outrage that the Trump Administration is trying to close the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

The CFPB was created after the Great Recession to protect consumers from banks picking their pockets. It has returned over \$20 billion to Americans cheated by greedy corporations. By closing its doors, President Trump is empowering scammers and fraudsters at the expense of hardworking Americans.