

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Member Yvette Clarke

Markup of 12 Bills, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade

September 1, 2026

Good morning and thank you Chairman Bilirakis, and Ranking Member Schakowsky for holding this markup today.

While I don't agree with every bill before our subcommittee today, I am happy to see some bills put forth that would address real-world issues impacting consumers.

Bills like the Strategic Task Force on Scam Prevention Act and the MAIN Event Ticketing Act provide essential protection for consumers who have fallen victim to complex or incessant scams, or folks who pay higher ticketing prices when they have to fight bots for tickets to their favorite events.

I applaud my colleagues who have taken up these initiatives, but we must also admit where government falls short. The Trump Administration and their Project 2025 handbook have systematically undermined the FTC and Consumer Product Safety Commission, the very agencies set out to protect Americans online and ensure a fair market.

For the last thirty years, the FTC has taken bipartisan action to protect Americans from deceptive practices, bringing cases against scammers who impersonate businesses or con artists who target senior citizens. It's simple, consumer protection does not exist without the agencies equipped and ready to enforce.

My Republican colleagues need to acknowledge that Project 2025 was not a lie. The Trump Administration is directly inhibiting consumer rights and protections and, while we can continue to put forth well-intentioned legislation, it will ultimately fall short if we lack proper enforcement agencies.

I yield back.