

Chairman Butterfield, Ranking Member Steil, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I urge the Subcommittee to consider H.R. 3832, the *Uncheck the Box Act*.

Political campaigns on both sides of the aisle have used the deceptive practice of “pre-checked boxes” to solicit recurring contributions, forcing Americans to pay thousands of dollars to campaigns without providing affirmative consent.

On May 6, 2021, the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) voted unanimously to recommend that Congress ban political campaigns from using prechecked boxes for recurring contributions. The FEC regularly receives complaints from individuals who do not recall agreeing to recurring contributions and have been unable to cancel. However, without statutory authority from Congress, the FEC does not have any way to help these contributors.

It is uncommon to find an issue that FEC commissioners of both parties agree on. That is why I introduced the *Uncheck the Box Act*, which would prohibit recurring contributions to a political committee, independent expenditure, or any electioneering communication unless the contributor provides affirmative consent.

Political campaigns are about persuading voters on your values and ideas, not scamming people out of every last dollar they have. I am hopeful that members of both parties can agree the American people deserve some basic protections against this scam and will help pass this legislation as soon as possible.