

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade
Subcommittee Hearing
“Daily Fantasy Sports: Issues and Perspectives”
May 11, 2016**

Good morning. Today we will hear from stakeholders about the daily fantasy sports industry that has attracted so much attention and excitement in the last year or two.

Most people are familiar the fantasy sports that consist of a group of friends and coworkers getting together for a season long pool. These games are a fun way to bring together communities – even republicans and democrats – around some of our favorite national pastimes.

What we’ve seen in the last few years is the growth of a new segment of the fantasy world: daily fantasy sports. Around 60 million people are playing fantasy sports and a reported 14 million are playing daily fantasy sports, with millions of dollars at stake.

As we explore the current landscape of daily fantasy sports and the new innovations they offer for fans, I will be focusing on the consumer protections in place for players on DFS websites. It is clear that adult players deserve a fair game and clear rules. I am interested in hearing

from the witnesses about what internal controls are in place to ensure game integrity on daily fantasy sports websites—particularly if different operators use different controls.

I am also interested to learn about the self-regulatory activities industry has put in place and the technological tools available in the market to implement consumer protections include age limits and geofencing.

States all across the country are looking at these issues, which will help inform whether a Federal role is warranted. In Michigan, for instance, there is a bill pending in the legislature to expressly legalize daily fantasy sports.¹

I would like to thank the witnesses for taking time to come help us understand this growing industry and I look forward to hearing your testimony.

¹ *Id.*