

Committee on Energy and Commerce

**Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of**

Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Member Kevin Mullin

Hearing on “Examining Legislation to Establish a Federal Comprehensive Privacy and Data Security Law”

June 3, 2026

Thank you, Ranking Member Schakowsky.

Americans overwhelmingly feel powerless over how their information is collected, used, and shared. And the evidence suggests they have good reason to feel that way. Whether someone has been to an abortion clinic or searched for information about addiction treatment can be easily bought and sold. Cars are transmitting driver location data to insurers. Gig-work platforms are using nurses’ personal financial data to set individualized pay, offering lower wages to those who appear most in need of work. Foreign adversaries have legally purchased location data that can be used to track active-duty U.S. service members.

We know how to address these problems. My home state of California enacted the nation's first comprehensive consumer privacy law in 2018 and has continued to strengthen those protections, giving consumers greater transparency and control over how their personal information is collected, used, and shared. In recent Congresses, this Committee has also proposed strong, bipartisan privacy legislation.

Unfortunately, the SECURE Data Act is not that. The legislation before us today moves in the opposite direction. It protects companies that profit from personal data, places the burden on consumers to fight for control of their own information, and undermines stronger, state-level protections already in place.

I urge my Republican colleagues to work in a bipartisan basis on meaningful privacy protections that put consumers in control of their personal information..