

Opening Statement of Chairman Brett Guthrie
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade
“Legislative Proposals to Strengthen Consumer Protection in a Changing Marketplace”
Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 10:15 AM

Good morning, and thank you, Chairman Bilirakis, for holding a hearing on these important topics.

Today, this subcommittee will consider consumer protection legislation at a time when the U.S. marketplace continues to change dramatically. New business practices and advancements in technology bring with them abundant new opportunities for consumers.

American consumers have more choices than ever before. With just a few clicks, they can buy products and services from virtually anywhere in the world. But as the marketplace has evolved, so have the risks. Fraudsters have grown more sophisticated, unsafe products are making their way into American homes, and consumers are increasingly forced to navigate a marketplace that is more complex, more confusing and harder to trust.

Our existing consumer protection laws, including the Federal Trade Commission Act and the Consumer Product Safety Act, are often up for meeting these challenges. However, when there are clear gaps in existing frameworks, Congress has a responsibility to examine whether targeted legislative action is needed to protect American families from scams, unfair practices, and dangerous products.

The bills before us today address gaps in our consumer protection laws by strengthening anti-fraud efforts, keeping unsafe products imported by Chinese

companies out of the American marketplace, and providing consumers with clearer and more consistent information about recycling and product labeling.

Many of the bills we are discussing today are bipartisan, and I applaud my colleagues for working across the aisle. Regardless of where Americans shop, consumers deserve confidence that the products they purchase are safe, the information they receive is accurate, and bad actors will be held accountable.

I thank all the witnesses for being here today and look forward to your testimony.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.