

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce Chair Janice D. Schakowsky

Markup of 6 Bills

July 20, 2022

Today, we continue this Committee's strong bipartisan tradition by considering bills with support on both sides of the aisle.

These include groundbreaking federal privacy legislation, the "American Data Privacy and Protection Act".

This legislation will, for the first time in history, create fundamental digital privacy rights for all Americans. 86% of Americans are concerned about data privacy. Americans are tired of waiting.

After *years* of work in this committee and across Congress, this bill represents a landmark compromise.

This is not the bill that I would write in a perfect world, but we have a mandate to move now. In particular, I believe we must do more with respect to arbitration.

This bipartisan data privacy bill will provide relief for consumers who feel helpless online.

I have been proud to work with Ranking Member Bilirakis, Chairman Pallone, and Ranking Member Rogers as well as many other stakeholders from every corner of government, civil society, and industry to bring us to this moment.

Let's make today the first time ever a bipartisan data privacy bill is voted out of committee.

Beyond privacy, other legislation we consider today protects children by reducing the risk of ingesting harmful "button cell" batteries.

"Reese's law" is named after Reese Hamsmith who tragically lost her life after ingesting a button cell battery.

The "Informing Consumers About Smart Devices Act" provides transparency about hidden cameras and microphones in consumer electronics.

The "SECURE Notarization Act" increases access to secure electronic notarization services

The "Manufacturing.gov Act" strengthens domestic manufacturing.

And the "RANSOMEWARE Act" protects businesses from cyberattacks.

July 20, 2022

Page 2

I look forward to today's markup of these bills which builds on our bipartisan momentum to protect consumers and pass transformative federal privacy protection.