

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Subcommittee on Innovation, Data and Commerce Ranking Member Jan Schakowsky

*Innovation, Data, and Commerce Subcommittee Hearing on “The Fiscal Year 2025
Department of Commerce Budget”*

June 26, 2024

I'd like to welcome Commerce Secretary Raimondo to the Subcommittee this morning.

The Department of Commerce is doing incredibly important work on promoting tourism, supply chains, trustworthy artificial intelligence, and high-speed internet for all.

These efforts will lower costs for consumers by creating more resilient supply chains, promoting competition, and creating quality jobs.

They have also created over 800,000 manufacturing jobs.

However, Republicans' extreme budget cuts threaten Commerce's work.

Even as they ask Commerce to do more, Republicans are proposing to cut the Department's budget by 9%.

Commerce's essential work must be fully funded to grow our economy and lower costs for American families.

I want to touch on one issue that has been raised to me by my friends in the labor community.

I have heard concerns about semiconductor companies exposing workers to toxic conditions, low wages, and long hours.

As we invest billions of taxpayer dollars in semiconductor grants, companies should raise the bar.

We have an opportunity to realize the President's promise of good manufacturing jobs here in the U.S.