Thank you Chairman Paul, Ranking Member Peters, and members of the committee for this hearing.

It's my first time on this side of the dais after 5 years in the House of Representatives, where I had the pleasure of working with several of you. If I am confirmed, it would be an honor to serve our nation in a new capacity — to implement President Trump's vision and agenda.

I want to thank Jo, my wife and life partner, and my son Jack who's working hard in law school today, for all that we've seen over the last decade, including my tenure in Congress, and now this nomination process. It's a testament to Jo's much greater popularity that a number of Congressional spouses are with her today. My thanks to them for their kindness to Jo. And thanks also to my former Congressional office staff, who've come today as my dear friends.

It's a tremendous honor to be nominated by President Trump to serve as the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Unknown by name to many, it does what the name implies – craft the President's budget, manage and coordinate among federal agencies, implement the President's regulatory agenda, and so on. It's a critical part of ensuring that the government responds to the democratically elected President in order to respond to the will of the American people and not to entrenched Washington interests and the political establishment.

Something I always noticed in Congress, when I was out meeting folks in North Carolina, is that the American people are way ahead of us in Washington. They know what's going on. They're smart, resourceful, resilient, and hardworking. They want accountability, transparency, and an end to the waste and the Washington status quo.

They recognized in this past election that our nation was at a crossroads, on the precipice of either renewed greatness or ruin. In that precarious moment, they placed their confidence in President Donald Trump to usher in a new Golden Age for America. I'm here on behalf of that mission, and the trust placed in President Trump by the people.

Our children and grandchildren are being crushed under the massive burden of an out-of-control federal debt. For too long, we've been spending money we don't have on things we don't need. Our government has been self-absorbed, inefficient, unaccountable, and maladministered. The good news is that we can fix all of those things, and, if confirmed, I will be laser-focused on doing so, along with Director Russ Vought and the superb public servants at OMB.

It's finally time for a government accountable to the people. I've fought to deliver that my entire public service career, from county commission, to state legislature, to Congress, and it will continue to be my North Star. Whether elected or appointed, we must never forget the right of the people to decide. I know that I will never forget it, and neither will Director Vought. I was thrilled to see Director Vought confirmed by the Senate, and I can assure you that he is the man to get management of the federal government back on track. If confirmed, I look forward to serving as his deputy.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I look forward to your questions.