

Independent Sector



December 16, 2025

The Honorable Chip Roy
Chairman
Subcommittee on the Constitution
and Limited Government
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mary Gay Scanlon
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Constitution
and Limited Government
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Roy and Ranking Member Scanlon,

On behalf of Independent Sector and National Council of Nonprofits, we write to share concern about the subcommittee's scheduled hearing today and to strongly support the rights of all nonprofit and philanthropic organizations – regardless of any perceived political leanings – to speak out, share information, and engage the communities they serve to advance a charitable mission.

Our organizations collectively represent tens of thousands of charitable and philanthropic organizations that employ millions of individuals across every state, engage tens of millions of additional individuals who serve as board members and other volunteers, and touch the lives of virtually every American every day.

While the title of today's hearing may name only one organization, its potential to chill the speech of organizations throughout our sector is much greater. It is part of a pattern of actions to subject perceived political opponents to harassment in the name of oversight. The charitable sector has long supported fair oversight to ensure we live up to our collective duty, but a robust civil society cannot survive when political leaders decide which institutions deserve scrutiny based on their ideology.

We unequivocally condemn political violence, which has no place in our nation and runs counter to the very underpinnings of civil society in which our organizations operate. We

are equally opposed to hate in all its forms and support the vital work of nonprofits in defending the targeted.

Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely,

Dr. Akilah Watkins
President and CEO
Independent Sector

Diane Yentel
President and CEO
National Council of Nonprofits