

Maria Stepanovich
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Thank you Mr. Chairman. The confidence of the American people in Congress is at an all-time low. Any suggestion that members of Congress are somehow above the law deserves scrutiny. We simply cannot afford for even the appearance of impropriety to act as a distraction when we have so many problems facing our country.

I think this hearing is going to be very instructive and I look forward to the expert testimony. The STOCK Act is a serious proposal worth examination and I know there are several other bills that have been introduced as well. I think the American people deserve to know that this issue is receiving our attention and hopefully the testimony here will inform not only us but the public as well. Whatever legislation or any other fix may be necessary; we must act to restore the faith of the American people in our body.