Opening Statement of Nathan Anonick
Nominee for Commissioner of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Before the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

November 17, 2026

Chairman Boozman, Ranking Member Klobuchar, and distinguished members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today as one of President Trump's nominees to serve as a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. I want to thank President Trump for nominating me to serve in this role, and I want to thank Chairman Selig for his trust and confidence in supporting my nomination.

I also want to thank my family who is with me today: my parents Dr. Patrick Anonick and Robin Anonick, my sister Rachel, my wife Nichole- who has been my biggest supporter and my rock- and our 16-month-old daughter, Charlotte Bell. Because of your unwavering love and support, this accomplishment is as much yours as it is mine.

I have too many current and former colleagues who have influenced me to thank, but I want to take a moment to recognize Toni-Marie Higgins, Fitz Elder and Chelsie Keys- while I value the professional lessons you taught me, I'm most thankful for the kindness, patience and love you showed me when my wife underwent a health scare. I will never forget that, thank you.

Finally I'd like to thank Chairman Boozman- serving you, first in your personal office and then on this committee for over four years, has been the greatest experience of my professional life. You taught me how to be a better negotiator, policymaker, and public servant. Most importantly, you've exemplified how to be a good man. I'm forever grateful for the opportunity to serve you and this committee.

I have had the fortune of working in multiple different capacities, from advising private sector financial companies, working as a career civil servant at the FDIC, and my current role of serving Chairman Boozman and this committee. While all those experiences have allowed me to work on my passion of financial services regulation and policy, serving this committee has been the greatest experience of my life because it allowed me to work on financial services issues that matter the most to hardworking farmers and ranchers who put food on our table.

The community I grew up in – Concord, North Carolina – had many of those farmers, and I saw first-hand at a young age how difficult, yet essential, their job is. As this committee knows all too well, acts of God and foreign conflicts an ocean away can affect the price of American-grown commodities, where margins are often already very small- it is hard to think of an industry that faces more volatile and uncontrollable risk. The agriculture and energy derivatives markets are vital risk management tools in the end-user's toolbox, and the CFTC's role in overseeing the stability and security of these markets is essential to the U.S. commodity supply chain.

I have had the pleasure of hearing Chairman Boozman time and time again say, "food security is national security," and I firmly believe that. The ability for producers and growers to effectively and efficiently manage commodity pricing volatility risk is an essential component to that security.

Along with agriculture, energy and financial services derivatives markets, the evolution of technology has resulted in new frontier markets that fall under the CFTC's jurisdiction. In a short period of time, we have witnessed rapid technological change and adoption that allows people to manage risk in ways that weren't imaginable ten years ago. As technology, businesses, markets, and consumer demands evolve, regulation needs to keep pace. This requires a level of flexibility, engagement, and clear rules necessary to meet rapidly evolving markets. The CFTC's principles-based regulatory framework is exactly the right market regulatory framework to meet this moment, and if I have the pleasure of being confirmed, I look forward to contributing to the work of Chairman Selig and this Administration and ensuring that the derivatives markets are appropriately regulated and policed.

The CFTC is at a unique moment in history. Frontier markets and their underlying technologies are evolving at paces faster than ever before, and the markets are seeing new types of entrants every day. The unique characteristics of these markets warrant ensuring regulation is appropriately tailored.

At the same time, our agricultural industry faces uncertain and volatile risks, and the importance of liquid, resilient risk management derivatives markets has never been more essential than it is today. Ensuring the regulatory environment allows for effective hedging and risk management in our agriculture and energy markets must always be the CFTC's north star.

If confirmed, I will remain committed to working tirelessly with Chairman Selig, my fellow commissioners, and this Committee that I call "home," to ensure well-functioning derivatives markets; foster a regulatory environment that allows for price discovery, competition and innovation; and continue on the time-tested tradition of ensuring the CFTC and it's regulatory framework remains the gold standard for derivatives market regulation.

It is the honor of my life to be here before you all today. Thank you for your time, I look forward to answering your questions.