September 2, 2021

Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

We write to you to express our support for the package of Big Tech antitrust bills marked up by the House Judiciary Committee in June. This bipartisan package of bills reflects the culmination of a two-year investigation into the abuses of Big Tech. If enacted, these bills are a major step forward in restoring competitive markets and unlocking the potential of Americans to grow successful businesses and build an economy that is more prosperous, equitable, and innovative. Furthermore, they represent our best chance in generations to rein in the runaway power of the biggest, wealthiest, and least accountable corporations in the world.

For nearly two years Chairs David Cicilline and Jerrold Nadler, and Ranking Member Ken Buck led an extremely thorough bipartisan investigation. It included 10 hearings, 240 interviews, 1.3 million documents, and a historic 450-page report. There was testimony from dozens of experts and representatives from the corporations themselves, including the CEOs, Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg, Tim Cook, and Sundar Pichai.

The committee developed a suite of groundbreaking bills informed by the recommendations of the report. They were carefully crafted to address the abusive practices of the Big Tech companies. We believe that these bills will bring urgently needed change and accountability to these companies and an industry that most Americans agree is already doing great harm to our democracy. The legislative package includes:

**H.R. 3816 – American Innovation and Choice Online Act (Reps. Cicilline and Gooden):** This bill will promote innovation and competition by prohibiting dominant Big Tech platforms from anticompetitive discrimination, self-preferencing, and excluding competitors to protect their monopolies and leverage them into other lines of business.

**H.R. 3825 – Ending Platform Monopolies Act (Reps. Jayapal and Gooden):** This bill will address the most problematic aspects of the Big Tech companies by giving government enforcers the ability to sue to break-up or separate certain parts of the businesses that create conflicts of interest that give the companies an unfair advantage against potential competitors and business users.
H.R. 3826 – Platform Competition and Opportunity Act (Reps. Jeffries and Buck): This bill will prevent the most problematic mergers and acquisitions, such as those that include competitors, potential or nascent competitors, or will enhance or maintain the company’s market power.

H.R. 3849 – Augmenting Compatibility and Competition by Enabling Service Switching (ACCESS) Act (Reps. Scanlon and Owens): This bill would promote competition against the Big Tech platforms by reducing their power to keep users locked in. It would require Big Tech platforms to allow users to take their data with them if they decide to leave, and to allow users to communicate across networks or platforms.

H.R. 3843 – Merger Filing Fee Modernization Act (Reps. Neguse and Spartz): This bill would update merger filing fees and authorize much-needed funding for antitrust enforcement agencies.

H.R. 3460 – State Antitrust Enforcement Venue Act (Reps. Buck and Cicilline): This bill would give state attorneys general the same ability that federal antitrust enforcers have to stay in the court of their choosing when bringing a federal antitrust suit rather than have a defendant seek to move a case to a more favorable venue.

America has a monopoly problem. Monopoly power lowers wages, reduces innovation and entrepreneurship, exacerbates income and regional inequality, undermines the free press and access to information, and perpetuates toxic systems of racial, gender, and class dominance. Big Tech monopolies are at the center of many of these problems. Reining in these companies is an essential first step to reverse the damage of concentrated corporate power throughout our economy. The bills that passed out of the House Judiciary Committee, with bipartisan support, do just that and it is imperative that they move forward in the House.

Americans support taking action against these companies. Antitrust reform enjoys widespread public support. Recent polling found that 57 percent of Democrats and Republicans and 61 percent of independents believe that Big Tech companies should be broken up. Nearly nine in 10 voters strongly support a proposal to make rules to ensure Big Tech corporations do not abuse consumer data or civil rights.

We are proud to support this important legislative package and encourage all members of Congress to vote for its swift passage.

Sincerely,

Public Citizen
Accountable Tech
Action Center on Race & the Economy
ALIGN: The Alliance for a Greater New York
Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding
American Booksellers Association
American Family Voices
American Independent Business Alliance
American Specialty Toy Retailing Association
Artist Rights Alliance
Athena
Cambridge Local First
Center for American Progress
Center for Digital Democracy
Center for Popular Democracy
Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws
Decode Democracy
Demos
Electronic Frontier Foundation
Friends of the Earth
Future of Music Coalition
Gig Workers Rising
Global Exchange
Indivisible Georgia Coalition
Indivisible Hawaii
Indivisible Ulster/NY19
Institute for Local Self-Reliance
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
Jobs With Justice
Kairos Action
Local First Arizona
Louisville Independent Business Alliance
Main Street Alliance
Mainers for Accountable Leadership
Media Alliance
Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
National Employment Law Project
New York Communities For Change
New York Communities for Change
North American Hardware and Paint Association
Open Markets Institute
Our Revolution
PowerSwitch Action
Public Knowledge
Running Industry Association
Secure Elections Network
Service Employees International Union
Shop Local Raleigh/Greater Raleigh Merchants Association
SIMBA (Spokane Independent Metro Business Alliance)
Small Business Rising
Stand Up Nashville
StayLocal, an initiative of Urban Conservancy
Strategic Organizing Center
SumOfUs
The Democratic Coalition
UltraViolet
Venice Resistance
Warehouse workers for justice