

June 23, 2021

Representative David Cicilline
Chairman
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial & Administrative Law
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ken Buck
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial & Administrative Law
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
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Dear Chairman Cicilline and Ranking Member Buck,

The American Association for Justice and the Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws strongly support the bipartisan legislation that restores competition to the online marketplace and strengthens the enforcement powers of the Department of Justice, state Attorneys General and victims that is being marked up by the House Judiciary Committee. We request that this statement be included for the record of the markup.

Following the findings in the Antitrust Subcommittee's 16-month investigation and report on the state of competition in the digital marketplace, these bills are perhaps the most significant reform to strengthen the antitrust laws since the Clayton Act was passed over one hundred years ago. This groundbreaking legislation will rein in the power of the Big Tech platforms by enhancing the ability of private and public antitrust enforcers to hold the companies accountable in a reasonable and transparent manner. The public has a right to understand decisions being made by Big Tech and to seek justice and accountability under our antitrust laws when violations occur. The dominance of these platforms is the modern-day equivalent of the massive consolidation of power among railroads and oil companies that prompted the enactment of the Sherman Act. This bipartisan legislation is a much-needed correction to lackluster antitrust enforcement in recent years.

Thank you for considering our views.

American Association for Justice
Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws