

Questions for the Record from Representative Cliff Bentz for Professor Waller  
Collusion in the Global Alliance for Responsible Media  
July 10, 2024

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1. Do you agree that antitrust law can and should protect (promote) commercial speech? It appears that the economy has evolved such that firms and consumers depend on information, ideas, and speech, even when traded at zero prices – known as “information economy”.
2. Should antitrust treat commercial speech as a “virtue of competition” given that first the nature of competition generates market information valued by consumers and second anti-competitive conduct can suppress it?
3. Do you agree that it is now common for firms to compete over issues of quality, speech, innovation, privacy, and selection rather than prices thus implying that antitrust fidelity to price must loosen?
4. Since a firm can employ anti-competitive tactics, resulting in compressed commercial speech without producing higher prices, is it critical that the quality of information reaching market actors reflect a non-price element of consumer welfare? In other words, “non-price competition is most important. . . Where price competition lacks vigor.”