



September 15, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Nadler
Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Chairman Nadler, and Ranking Member Jordan:

We, the undersigned, request that the House Judiciary Committee antitrust bills, H.R. 3849, the Augmenting Compatibility and Competition Enabling Service Switching Act; H.R. 3826, the Platform Competition and Opportunity Act; H.R. 3816, the American Choice and Innovation Online Act; and H.R. 3825, the Ending Platform Monopolies Act, not be brought to the floor for a vote without serious changes.

We feel, these bills will have many unintended consequences for all Internet users, especially marginalized voices. The proposals would mandate a few select technology companies to host dangerous misinformation, harmful content like hate speech or bigotry, remove current services that are enjoyed by consumers on their platforms, or charge fees for services that were once free. As we have seen, technology, especially AI, can have disproportionate impact on people of color. Enforcement is almost always uneven, with more frequent and harsh actions taken against BIPOC communities.

Indeed, the bills would limit communities that have grown to depend upon the internet for movements like Black Lives Matter from having a voice. Additionally, in many instances, the bills permit private citizens to bring lawsuits against these digital services, which is problematic because it could lead to coordinated lawsuits by the public seeking to enforce these proposals or bringing lawsuits for business gain. We do not believe the effects of these bills are related to competition in the technology industry but instead will have the consequence of impacting everyone that uses these platforms.

Given the seriousness of the consequences that are at stake, we respectfully request you to not bring the above referenced "antitrust" bills to the floor this Congress, unless we can improve safeguards to limit discriminatory actions against BIPOC users.



Sincerely,

Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.
Founder and CEO
Financial Services Innovation Coalition

Dr. Charles Steele, Jr,
President and CEO
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Brady J. Buckner
Executive Director
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Dr. Oliver Hooks
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William Baker
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Raquel Wells
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Tobey Waste Management

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Founder and Owner
Coefficient Technology